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NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

46,868

Michael Billington on Pinter's passions

Acts of betrayal

G2 with European weather



Inside Story

The addict who had the ear of the Government

G2 pages 4/5



Education

Schools that want to be up to the Chartermark

G2 pages 10/11

The foiling of the IRA

Suspect shot dead as raids uncover arms and explosives

David Sharrock, Owen Bowcott, Chris Elliott and Martin Walzwright

IRA plans to demonstrate its still-murderous capacity with a series of spectacular attacks...

The scale of the police operation - which left one terrorist suspect dead and five others under arrest...

Ten tons of home made fertilizer-based explosive packed in boxes were found in a north London warehouse...

Police said they had frustrated an attack that could have taken place 'today or tomorrow'...

The presence of under-vehicle booby trap bombs also suggests the IRA was preparing to widen its attacks to politicians or establishment figures...

Security sources on both sides of the Irish border have in the past week claimed the IRA is about to hold an Army Convention...

However, it has been thought the IRA could only call a ceasefire from a position of strength...

John Major was 'absolutely delighted' by the operation. 'The discovery of these plans and the huge stocks of explosives and arms put in their proper context professions of peaceful intentions by Sinn Fein's leaders and speculation about a new IRA ceasefire,' he said.

Sinn Fein's president, Gerry Adams, said he regretted the death of a man but added there was a dangerous political vacuum which Mr Major had to fill with 'a process of real negotiations'.

Yesterdays anti-terrorist success raises the spectre of penetration of the IRA's England Department...

Senior officers were staggered at the size of the 'quartermaster's stores' which may have been in place before the Canary Wharf bomb in February...

Three homes in London and Sussex were raided just after 4am by officers from Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist branch.

At a bed and breakfast hotel, The Lodge, in Glenthorne Road, Hammersmith, west London, a man was killed when shots were fired.

In Sheffield, South Yorkshire, police searched a home and industrial premises. No one was arrested and no arms or explosives were seized.

A mile away, in Fulham, a man was arrested by armed officers. A British Airways engineer at Gatwick Airport was also seized...

'I have no doubt that today's operation has frustrated an attempt by the Provisional IRA to carry out significant and imminent attacks on the mainland with the possibility, indeed the probability, of grave loss of life, serious damage and disruption to mainland cities.'

Leader comment, page 5



The trail of blood left after a man was killed during the police raid in Hammersmith, west London. PHOTOGRAPH LOUISE BULLER

'We heard them shouting from the ground 'Drop your gun, drop your gun, you've got no chance''

Witness Gulafshan Ali, aged 32

'One of the medical staff described him as being like a pin cushion because he had been hit so many times.'

Security guard at Charing Cross Hospital

Bombers thwarted

In raids across England yesterday, one man was shot dead and five others arrested as police moved in on an alleged IRA bombing network.



Lorry tip-off put MI5 on the scent

Richard Norton-Taylor

THE successful security and police operation which led to yesterday's arrests began when the Royal Ulster Constabulary tipped off MI5 about two lorries, believed to have been bought at auction in Ireland...

Once the trucks arrived in Scotland, MI5 watchers took control of an operation which eventually involved 10 police forces, as well as the RUC and Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist branch.

'Hundreds of officers were involved,' an intelligence source said last night.

The same route was used to drive the modified low-loader containing the bomb which exploded at Canary Wharf in London's Docklands in February this year...

Though surveillance was the key to the operation, sources said a variety of techniques were used. These could have included bugging and telephone taps...

The IRA, concerned about past reverses, is believed to have taken the risk of turning to experienced members, more likely to be known to the security and intelligence services, to train recruits.

West 'covering up mass fraud in Bosnian polls'

Bosnian vote

Table comparing Bosnian UN estimate (2.94m) and OSCE revised figure (3.2m).

Julian Borger in Sarajevo

THE international organisation supervising the Bosnian elections is attempting to cover up wholesale fraud involving an estimated 600,000 phantom votes...

His margin of victory of 41,000 votes over the Bosnian Serb separatist, Momcilo Krajisnik, is dwarfed by the scale of voting discrepancies, the greatest of which are in predominantly Muslim areas.

tors have called for the elections to be declared null and void after initial returns showed there had been 7 per cent more votes than estimated voters...

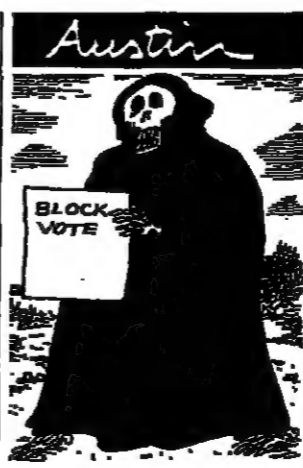
However, if the election results were nullified, or if Mr Krajisnik were declared the victor, Western strategy in Bosnia would go into a tailspin.

New government institutions could not be created, under the Dayton peace agreement, unless the whole election process - campaign, polling day count and results - is certified by the chairmen of the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

The OSCE, which is supervising the election and the count, has been under constant US pressure to play down evidence of fraud.

The head of the OSCE mission in Sarajevo is Robert Frowick, a US diplomat. Over the past month, the press department in the Bosnian capital has been gradually packed with US officials...

Election observers believe the most likely source of fraud was large-scale ballot-stuffing. Unlike earlier international-supervised elections in Namibia (November 1988) and Cambodia (May 1993), there was only one international supervising team.



Inside

Britain Hyperactive children are being treated with amphetamine-like drugs unnecessarily, say psychologists today.

World News Half a century of nuclear tests is due to end formally today when President Clinton signs the Test Ban Treaty at the UN.

Finance Plans to merge British Airways and American Airlines appear unlikely to be sent to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Sport The future of Headingley as one of the country's leading multi-sports venues is reaching crisis point, it has emerged.

Comment and Letters B; Obituaries 10; G2; Crossword 16; Weather 16; Radio 16; TV 16



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Sketch

Liberal sprinkling of magic moments



Simon Hoggart

LIBERAL conferences — the latest began in Brighton yesterday — have Liberal moments, prized by us connoisseurs. "I'm afraid," said an apologetic voice from the chair, "that Lindsay has gone off to have a coughing fit, so I've taken over for the moment."

This came in the debate on the economy, and the fit may have been triggered by the first mention of the single European currency. The same trick could work for politicians on the Today programme. "Chancellor, do you believe that the Conservative party should sign up to the single currency under any circumstances?"

"Let me answer that question this way. Anna. Whoop! grack splutter whizzz hurrbb hurrbb hurrbb, yer-craw!"

"Chancellor, thank you. After the news, Gordon Brown and his Fisherman's Friend."

Later Lindsay returned to the chair and gave us another Liberal moment. "I have never before been asked for a separate vote on the title of the motion. . . . How naive. Liberal Democrats would ask for separate votes on each word of the motion if they could."

My favourite moment occurred just before lunch. The press release promised "Photo Opportunity. Matthew Taylor MP plus three others on four-seater bicycle. Environmental shot. Meet outside conference centre."

As I prepared to cross the road the man who attends every conference with his bag and a placard saying "Stop Cigarette Sales in Children's Sweet Shops", asked what was going on. I said I thought it was a sponsored bike ride. "A sponsored bike ride!" he shouted. These four words, which would make any normal human being run a mile in the opposite direction, caused my new friend to sprint

through the traffic to join the throng.

We had been misled. The four-seater bike was in fact a four-wheeled contraption with a seat for two and a canopy, the kind of thing parents hire for their children to pedal down the prom.

Mr Taylor and a man from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds managed to climb on board. I asked the Liberal spin doctor what they were doing. "They're demonstrating that we are the leading environmental party," he explained. "That thing does not use fossil fuels."

I said it would be pretty useless if you wanted to take the family to France. "No, you would take the train instead," he said patiently.

The anti-smoking folk singer ("... an' yew can stick your Silk Cut. Where the monkey puts his nuts...") ran to the bike (trike? quadricycle?) to get himself into the photographers' viewfinders.

Mr Taylor tried to make the best of it. "This thing, though it's hard to believe, is the future. Well, er, one aspect of the future." They set off towards Hove at a nippy, pollution-free 6 mph. The machine had no reverse, but when necessary a BBC crew pushed it backwards. That's another reason why it will never catch on: would you want to take a BBC crew every time you went shopping?

The RSPB man, who wore big round glasses and so looked a little like Mr Toad in the National Theatre's Wind in the Willows, went "parr parr" on the horn. "Let's see how brave you really are," said Mr Taylor, as he drove at the photographers. The anti-smoking minstrel ("Low Tar? No ta! That's what she said to me") ran behind them backwards so he kept in shot.

The spin doctor asked him to get out of the way. He refused. The spin doctor pushed him. He hit back. Suddenly there was a full-scale fist fight amid the bushes which separate the prom from the road. Another Liberal moment! Any minute we expected the arrival of a spin ambulance to whisk them to the spin hospital.

And proof yet again that the Liberals will do anything to let the drama and the music scream to the contrary.

Add performances in the principal roles that on the first night seemed totally inadequate, and you have all the ingredients for an operatic disaster. The Chinese soprano Chen Sue sang Butterfly with a tone that would curdle milk at 50 paces, chopping up the phrases wherever she thought fit, while Pinkerton was the American Mark Nicolson, who from the start seemed overwhelmed by what he was expected of him. And even normally reliable singers seemed reduced to mere shadows by the theatrical mess in which they found themselves. Peter Savidge's colourless Sharpless and Liane Keegan's Suzuki were the main casualties and only Clive Bayley as the Bonze restored some company pride. The conducting by Marco Zambelli was energetic if sometimes overloud, though that, in the circumstances, was no bad thing.

Review

Butterfly: without a wing or a prayer

Andrew Clements

Madama Butterfly Opera North, Grand Theatre, Leeds

NO one could accuse Opera North of being unwilling to take risks, but whether a popular repertory piece like Madama Butterfly is the right place to take them is another matter. They have hired a young Lithuanian director working on her first opera with an established company, and the two principal singers are making their debuts. The result is more inept and unconvincing than one could have imagined.

Dalia Ibelhauptaite sets out her manifesto in an embarrassing article in the programme. Apparently we've been getting it wrong all these years: Pinkerton only ever really loves Butterfly, and his American wife Kate knows the way always be second best, while Sharpless was and "possibly still is" in love with Butterfly too, and when he takes leave of her he is devastated because he only knows there can be no happy ending. Legislation should be passed forbidding directors to write programme notes, especially arrogant nonsense like this.

It all might not have mattered so much had the basic stagecraft of the piece been more convincing. But the show (with designs by Oleg Cheintsis) is blighted by a compulsion for doing things, never trusting the drama to pace itself. So there is a constant traffic of extras across the stage; rickshaws shuttle to and fro incessantly during the opening scene until during

Butterfly's wedding there are so many of them, each carrying a member of the chorus decked out in sickly pink, that there is no room for anyone to move. In the second act, members of Butterfly's family, who have supposedly ostracised her for marrying Pinkerton and converting to Christianity, stand mute guard as the opera drives to its conclusion. Ibelhauptaite also has Butterfly's son on stage from the beginning of the second act, neatly destroying the sense of shock, one of the searing moments in the opera, when she later produces him in front of Sharpless — the most extreme example of the director knowing best in the face of everything that the drama and the music scream to the contrary.

Add performances in the principal roles that on the first night seemed totally inadequate, and you have all the ingredients for an operatic disaster. The Chinese soprano Chen Sue sang Butterfly with a tone that would curdle milk at 50 paces, chopping up the phrases wherever she thought fit, while Pinkerton was the American Mark Nicolson, who from the start seemed overwhelmed by what he was expected of him. And even normally reliable singers seemed reduced to mere shadows by the theatrical mess in which they found themselves. Peter Savidge's colourless Sharpless and Liane Keegan's Suzuki were the main casualties and only Clive Bayley as the Bonze restored some company pride. The conducting by Marco Zambelli was energetic if sometimes overloud, though that, in the circumstances, was no bad thing.

New initiative aims to keep pornography off Internet

Stuart Miller

INTERNET companies yesterday backed an initiative aimed at driving pornography off the Net despite warnings that the scheme was unlikely to succeed. A new independent foundation will be charged by the industry with processing complaints

about illegal material on the Internet.

It will rate the contents of sites using a framework based on case law. Complaints from users will be verified and forwarded to participating search engines. Details will be made available to the National Crime Intelligence Service to Interpol.

16-year-old denies stabbing to death 'good man defending pupil from attack by armed street gang'

Head 'killed by Triad gang'



Headmaster Philip Lawrence: Stabbed when he 'peaceably confronted gang leader'

Vivek Chaudhary

HEADMASTER Philip Lawrence was stabbed to death while trying to defend one of his pupils from an attack by a street gang which pretended to be the juvenile equivalent of the Triads, the Old Bailey was told yesterday.

John Bevan, prosecuting, said on the first day of the trial of a 16-year-old youth accused of murdering Mr Lawrence that the gang arrived at St George's Roman Catholic School in Maida Vale, west London, last December, armed, wearing dark clothes, and with bandannas over their faces. It was, he said, a planned "military operation".

The 16-year-old, who cannot be named following a court order, was a member of the Woo Sang Woo (WSW) gang, largely made up of youths of Filipino origin, said Mr Bevan. The youth denies murder. He is also jointly charged with a 15-year-old, who also cannot be named of conspiracy to cause grievous bodily harm on the pupil Mr Lawrence allegedly tried to help, and wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm. Both deny the joint charges.

Mr Bevan said that up to 12 members of the WSW gang, led by the 16-year-old defendant, arrived at St George's intending to attack a pupil at the school. When Mr Lawrence "peaceably" confronted their leader, he was stabbed in the chest. The court heard that Mr Lawrence, aged 38, the first teacher to be killed while carrying out his duties, was "first a family man with a wife and four children and second a headmaster." He had



Headmaster's wife Frances Lawrence at the Old Bailey

been head of his school since January 1993.

Mr Lawrence's killing, said Mr Bevan, was one of the few "grave crimes" committed each year. "A man who in life was unknown beyond his own wide circle of family, friends and work environment was thrust into the national spotlight."

One of Mr Lawrence's main preoccupations was the safety of his pupils and "it was in seeking to protect one of them that he died."

Mr Bevan said: "His attacker is also a leader but of a rather different type that, although only 15 at the time, he was old enough to lead a gang of youths in a deliberate and concerted attempt to attack one of Phillip Lawrence's pupils as that pupil left the school gates. The gang was armed and

when Mr Lawrence confronted the leader, he was stabbed in the chest.

"It was a tragic waste of the life of a good man for the worst reasons."

The court heard that the younger of the two defendants was a pupil at St George's who had boasted that he was a Triad member. He enlisted the help of fellow WSW members after a confrontation with a 13-year-old boy over barging in the corridor.

Mr Bevan said: "Once on the days when fistfights in a playground in a fair fight were thought reasonable."

"He [the defendant] thought that an armed gang was the answer."

On the day of the attack, the gang was waiting around the corner from the school for a pupil but their plan was rumbled when he saw them.

"It went wrong because the trap lacked subtlety and he sensed danger," said Mr Bevan.

The pupil ran to the front gates of the school where the younger defendant offered to fight him. In the ensuing argument, the 13-year-old pupil was hit over the head with an iron bar. Mr Bevan said it was not clear who struck the boy but it was not believed to have been either of the two defendants.

The court was also told that a 15-year-old "reluctant" member of the gang had broken ranks from the "Triad hopefuls," and would be giving evidence against the defendants. Mr Bevan said that the gang of 12 was divided into groups of three as they approached St George's and that at all times, the youth accused of murdering Mr Lawrence was in charge of the planning. The case continues.

Lib Dem peer pleads for tactical voting

Priority is to oust Tories, Lord Rodgers asserts

Ewen MacAskill and Michael White

ONE of the Liberal Democrats' elder statesmen, Lord Rodgers, threw caution aside yesterday by urging tactical voting to elect Labour MPs where they stood the best chance of unseating Conservatives at the coming election.

Lord "Bill" Rodgers, one of the Gang of Four who founded the Social Democratic Party in 1981, was greeted with cries of "shame" when he made his unabashed

pleas at the Guardian debate on the fringe of the Lib Dem conference. Party leaders hesitate to urge tactical voting after setbacks in the 1990s.

The intervention of the former Labour cabinet minister in a prepared statement came as the Lib Dems' Brighton conference was again dominated by discussion of possible relationships with Labour before and after the general election.

With the conspicuous exception of the party president, Robert Maclennan, who said that "between us and Labour this is not the time for poison blowpipes or battle axes,"

most leading speakers criticised New Labour "timidity" in almost equal measure with criticism of the Tories.

But the party leader, Paddy Ashdown, who wants close co-operation with a Blair government but no merger, will not use his own major speech in Brighton this afternoon to bash Labour. Instead he will attack the Government for trying to monopolise patriotism by wrapping the Conservative flag in the flag on issues like Scottish devolution and ties with the European Union.

Mr Ashdown believes his team has already staked a claim to be clear, consistent and candid on tax and Europe. Armed with private polling that suggests his credibility in this field — as an ex-soldier and diplomat — is high, he will today try to wrest the patriotic card from Tory clutches.

With the election barely six months away, Labour's chief whip, Donald Dewar, yesterday dismissed talk of pacts, playing down the Liberal Democrats as little more than "an important pressure group".

But such statements are for public consumption. Behind the scenes, Labour and the Liberal Democrats are conscious that after the election they may have to work together.

Speaking at the Guardian debate alongside MPs James Nicholson and Manjiv Campbell, Lord Rodgers said: "I hope there will be a significant amount of tactical voting in the country. And if you were not an active Liberal Democrat and staying one, I would certainly say to the others of this country, vote to get rid of this government. Vote Liberal Democrat as a

first preference, but vote Labour if that is the best way of doing so."

In spite of opposition by speakers from the audience citing Labour's "untrustworthiness," the hostility was not as great as it would have been in past years, a likely recognition of electoral reality.

Although the official party line is to maximise the Liberal Democrat vote, many of the party's MPs are relaxed about tactical voting. Others fear they may be victims of it. Lord Rodgers was later unrepentant. "If you are fighting an unwinnable seat, it is difficult for you to accept the idea of tactical voting. I am not asking activists to do anything other than fight to win," he said.

"But I am saying to voters, you should vote for the con-

tender if you want to change the government."

To sweeten the proposal, he predicted that Liberal Democrats could win 20-25 more seats if tactical voting succeeded, taking their likely tally to more than 40.

Mr Campbell, MP for North Fife, said during the debate that he did not endorse the idea of tactical voting. The aim should be to maximise the Lib Dem vote to put pressure on Labour to put the introduction of proportional representation and other issues on the party's agenda.

He said that if after the election it was necessary in order to make an agreement with Labour in order to keep the Conservatives out of government, he would be happy to do that.

Leader comment, page 8

Little flair from Blair — but from the pen of Benn a flow of quotable quotes

John Ezard

NEW Labour still lags badly behind Old Labour in at least one distinguishing skill — the art of speaking words which earn immortality in print.

Despite all his media exposure and multitude of speeches, Tony Blair has only four entries in the new Oxford Dictionary of Political Quotations, due out next month. His colleagues John Prescott and Gordon Brown figure only for their political gaffes.

This compares with 14 quotes from one of their socialist arch-critics, Tony Benn, eight from Michael Foot, and 10 from Neil Kinnock.

Mr Blair ("The art of leadership is saying no") can not plead newness in office as an excuse. Mr Benn ("What

power have you got? To whom are you accountable?"), a backbencher who last held office 17 years ago, has as many quotes listed from the last two years as the Labour leader.

The dictionary, which is edited by Yes Minister author Antony Jay, includes Labour's deputy leader, John Prescott, for expostulating: "We're in danger of loving ourselves to death," during a 1994 leadership debate with Mr Blair and Margaret Beckett.

The shadow chancellor, Gordon Brown, gains immortality for a 43-word sentence explaining "the growth of post neo-classical endogenous growth theory" which brought him a Plain English Campaign nonsense award the same year.

Mr Kinnock ("I'm not going to be bloody rebbabed by you") penned his first endur-

ing sentence in 1981, writing in the Guardian of the pre-SDP Council for Social Democracy: "They want a kindly capitalism, a gentle market economy, an air-conditioned jungle."

Mr Foot's earliest quote, dating back 34 years, attacks a rightwing Labour minister who died 45 years ago: "A speech from Ernest Bevin on a major occasion had all the horrific fascination of a public execution."

Mr Blair's reforming predecessor, the late John Smith, and the 1980s politician George Lansbury are the only Labour leaders this century whom Mr Jay finds wholly unquotable.

But he includes the backbencher gaffer Ken Livingstone for remarking: "The problem is that many MPs never see the London that exists beyond the wine bars and brothels of Westminster."

John Major ("It is time to get back to basics"), gets seven entries in the dictionary, one more than Sir Edward Heath.

However this is dwarfed by Margaret Thatcher's 37 entries, Harold Macmillan's 25, Harold Wilson's 21 and — before the era of television and soundbites — Winston Churchill's 107, Lloyd George's 31, Disraeli's 104, Gladstone's 30, Walter Bagehot's 58 and Edmund Burke's 92. \*OUP, £15.99, published on October 17.

A word in your ear

THOSE who seriously believe we cannot improve on words written for the world of 1918 when we are now in 1995 are not learning from our history but living it.

Tony Blair, on Clause 4, 1995

When you get to No 10, you've reached the top of a very high mountain.

He's passed from rising hope to elder statesman without any intervening period whatsoever.

Michael Foot, of David Steel, 1979

If I sound lukewarm about our commitment to enter the European exchange rate mechanism, it was because of a frog in my throat.

young, not to fall ill and not to grow old.

Neil Kinnock, 1983

You don't reach Downing Street by pretending you've travelled the road to Damascus when you haven't even left home.

Thatcher, of Kinnock, 1989

You have used every cliché except "and I love" and "I shall be your dear

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'Everything that happened to me was excessive. The madness surrounding me seemed unreal'



The many faces of Bardot... early in her career (left), in her heyday (top centre) and in 1990 after 'deliberately destroying her image as a sex symbol'. Below, former lovers Alain Delon (left) 'a cold being', and Sacha Distel, who 'became a zero'

# Love and hate: Bardot bares her soul

The French cinema icon is releasing her autobiography, **Paul Webster** in Paris writes



Initiales BB... title inspired by ex-lover Serge Gainsbourg

AS HER 62nd birthday approaches on Saturday, Brigitte Bardot is about to reveal the full misery and the rare joys of being the most famous Frenchwoman since Joan of Arc.

Her autobiography — Initiales BB — threatens to claim a record for cinema world heartbreaks and attempted suicides.

The book, inspired by a song written by a former lover, the musician Serge Gainsbourg, will be released in France and Germany this week during a publicity extravaganza which includes an entire night of television interviews and film re-runs.

The cinema-going public will adore her for her demolition of co-stars such as Alain Delon and Sacha Distel, and weep over the unhappiness of innumerable affairs. However, the former actress could cause repulsion by her warm support for the racist French politician Jean-Marie Le Pen.

BB, who is married to one of Mr Le Pen's aides, has not appeared in a film since she retired at 40 to set up an anti-

mal rights foundation. She has spent much of the last 21 years putting together her own story as a reply to "all the rubbish that has been written about me".

In her pre-publication build-up, BB has lost none of the art of being the century's greatest tease, announcing that she has been "conned, manipulated and abused". The management of guarded interviews, spontaneous comments and leaked snippets from the autobiography, published in France by Grasset, has been better scripted than most of her films.

"I am very afraid of the impact," she said yesterday. "This is more stressful than a first film. My life has been a succession of brief moments of joy and terrible trials. With

me, life is made up only of the best and the worst, of love and hate. Everything that happened to me was excessive. In this book, I have stripped myself bare."

The image is entirely in keeping with the semi-naked *femme-enfant* temptress of Roger Vadim's 1956 film *Et Dieu Créa la Femme* (And God Created Woman). First leaks of the text allude to alcohol abuse, self-destructive depression and a cinematic form of nymphomania in which the actress falls in love with her leading men from the first screen embrace.

"When you live such intense moments as I have done there is always a bill to pay," she said, revealing that just before she retired she drank two bottles of champagne and three bottles of wine a day. Referring to suicide attempts when she cut her wrists, took sleeping pills and tried to gas herself, she said: "You cannot escape the distress which follows great happiness."

Her book tells of lovers who beat her, betrayed her and exploited her because she was naive and vulnerable. They treated her as a slut and a prostitute. Her upbringing in a strict Parisian bourgeois family, who hoped she would become a ballet dancer, did not prepare her for her meeting with Vadim, her first husband, who turned her into a universal sexual fantasy. She was 14 when they met,

and he was a Paris Match photographer covering the moral liberation movement in Saint-Germain-des-Près that brought together an intellectual elite, led by Jean-Paul Sartre and Simone de Beauvoir, and a mass of popular talent including the actress Juliette Greco and the writer Françoise Sagan.

The best known of her lovers were cinema stars such as Jean-Louis Trintignant and Warren Beatty. She neglected her only child, Nicholas, by the actor Jacques Charrier, and describes pregnancy as "the punishment of God". She found the film world boring and felt satisfaction only when filming ended.

"The madness which surrounded me always seemed unreal," she wrote. "I was never really prepared for the life of a star. I'm happier in my routine life today than when I was chased after by 100 photographers."

She has deliberately destroyed her image as a sex symbol by refusing cosmetic surgery, dressing badly and, after giving away her Saint Tropez villa to her foundation, living in a small house surrounded by rescued animals, a rusty Renault 4L and a broken down Range Rover. "You must think I am dissatisfied," she said. "That would be a form of bitterness. My life is now what I always wanted — what I dreamed about subconsciously."

## Thoughts of BB

**ON ACTOR ALAIN DELON:** Alain is handsome, certainly, but so is my Louis XVI comode. And I don't communicate any better with my comode than with Alain. Nothing happens in his face or in his eyes to cause emotion, nothing happens which attracts you, nothing which makes you believe in a sliver of truth, feelings or passion. Alain is a cold being, extremely egotistic who has found nothing better to warm up his image than advertising furs. He makes a fine pair with Sophia Loren.

**ON SINGER SACHA DISTEL:** "All of a sudden the star of the couple was him with his contracts, his musicians, his think tank, his public relations. If only he had known at the time that his first public relations asset was me. He didn't find out until afterwards when he had become a zero... All the men who shared my life, whether singer, actor or playboy, had their moment of glory. They thought it was due to their own selves and were cruelly disappointed when they saw the glory pass to their successor and they were abandoned to their sad fate."

**ON ACTORS JEAN-LOUIS TRINTIGNANT and SAMI FREY:** "Those two are

worth all my admiration and my love, which in some ways, still lasts. But I was so young and so mad that I did not realise I was involved with exceptional beings. I need to devour life and I let them pass. I have always fled to somewhere which I think better and never go back. When it's finished, it's finished."

**ON NATIONAL FRONT LEADER, JEAN-MARIE LE PEN:** "He is a charming and intelligent man, who, like me, is revolted by certain things. On the terrifying surge of immigration, I share his views completely."

his ankle. He had what makes great statesmen: authority. It's the same for teachers and fathers — if there is no respect then it's a mess."

**ON MEN AND LOVE:** "I love intense, reckless affairs. They must burn you up. Love must be passionate, even if passionate love does not last. That's why I have a life full of amorous liaisons. I fell in love with my male acting partners from the moment of the first love scene."

**ON SOCIETY:** "I hate it. I detest it and think it's horrible with its decadence, moral and physical filth, the loss of essential values and the spread of pornography."

## 21 killed in mosque massacre

Muslims in tit-for-tat shootings as Pakistani violence spirals

Phil Goodwin in Islamabad

TROOPS were patrolling the Punjabi city of Multan last night after at least 21 Sunni Muslim worshippers were killed in a mosque massacre by gunmen believed to be from a Shia group.

Four men walked into the mosque just before dawn, as prayers were about to start. They opened fire with automatic weapons for several minutes before escaping in a waiting car.

Ten people were killed instantly, and many others — most of them under the age of 16 — were seriously injured. The victims reportedly included boys studying at a Koranic school attached to the mosque.

The Pakistani government announced that two men had been arrested. But within an hour of the mosque victims' funerals, presumed Sunni vigilantes exacted their own ven-

geance: 60 miles away, near the town of Bahawalpur, a senior figure in the hardline Shia Tehrik-i-Jafria Pakistan (TJP) was killed.

It was the killing on Sunday of another Shia leader in the area that prompted yesterday's attack on the Sunni mosque.

The killings follow months of shootings at religious gatherings, between Sunni and Shia gangs. Pakistan's mainly Sunni population of 130 million has a Shia minority of 15 per cent.

The chief minister of Punjab, Arif Nakai, said the killings were carried out by "bigoted heretics". Afterwards, demonstrators clashed with police in the streets of Multan. Shia places of worship were attacked.

One man said his father had been in the mosque at the time. "He told me that as soon as the worshippers kneeled in prayer, the gunmen opened up with automatic weapons.



firing from three sides," he said. "The shooting went on for five minutes and there was blood and bits of flesh all over the mosque."

A spokesman in Karachi for the radical Sunni Sipah-i-Sahaba (SSP) group blamed the TJP for the attack on the mosque. "Innocent worshippers... Some of those in the mosque may have been supporters of the SSP," he said, "but they were not party members."

A similar outbreak of violence last year ended only

when the authorities arrested hundreds of militants, and religious parties formed a council to bring rival groups together.

Violence subsided for a few months, but then the two groups blamed for most of the violence — the Shia Sipah-i-Mohammed Pakistan and the Sunni Sipah-i-Mohammed — dropped out of the council and resumed hostilities.

Several prominent members of both groups have been shot dead this year. The recent arrests of more than 200 militants have not stemmed the violence.

Pakistan's militant groups emerged under military rule in the 1980s, when the country was actively encouraging and funding Islamic militants, with Western funds, to fight against the Soviet occupation of neighbouring Afghanistan.

Many people accuse politicians of complicity in perpetuating the violence, because of the politics of survival. The government of Benazir Bhutto retains a narrow majority coalition in Punjab with the help of the extremist Sunni group Sipah-e-Sahaba.

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**At the height of his addiction he was injecting eight times a day, pretending to local chemists that he needed it for terminally ill patients.**

Inside Story on Clive Froggatt

**G2 page 4**

**Political voting**

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**0800 111 777**

MP condemns 'law of jungle' killing

A SMALL time criminal beaten to death in a "punishment" attack on Sunday night was the victim of "the law of the jungle", his MP, William McCrea, the Democratic Unionist member for mid-Ulster, claimed yesterday.

Girl died after blood refused

A TEENAGE Jehovah's Witness died after a rollerblading accident because a blood transfusion was refused on religious grounds, an inquest heard yesterday.

Police sex case inquiry calls

NORTH Yorkshire police authority, which paid an unpublished £100,000 compensation to a staff victim of sexual harassment, is to hold an emergency meeting today after bi-partisan calls for an independent inquiry.

Man admits foot fetish assault

A TEENAGER with a foot fetish pulled a woman to the ground on an area of derelict land after she had picked up her daughter from dancing class and assaulted her after taking off one of her sandals.

RAF man killed in copter fall

THE RAF launched an inquiry yesterday after a crewman died falling from a helicopter during a night exercise in South Wales.

Burglar released in 'cock-up'

POLICE are hunting a burglar who was released from Walton jail, Liverpool, last Thursday after only two weeks of a four-year sentence because prison officials — who admit to "a bit of a cock-up" — mixed him up with an inmate with the same surname.

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Church was told bishop had four women, housekeeper claims

Erlend Clouston on 'revealing' letters

A THIRD woman emerged from Roderick Wright's past yesterday, claiming that church authorities had ignored her warnings about the Scottish bishop's unorthodox private life.

grave that he was not having an affair. On the second, she said, he turned white. Ms McKinney said she then went to see the two churchmen, the top figures in the Scottish Catholic hierarchy, and was sacked two weeks afterwards by Bishop Wright.

Guide lists ways to help clergy keep sexual pitfalls at bay

Sarah Boseley on avoiding scandal

GUIDELINES to help Church of England ministers avoid intimacy with adults or children which could lead to sexual scandal were published by the Oxford diocese yesterday.

statements of the code of practice and procedures in case of allegations of sexual abuse or inappropriate behaviour. They follow a working party report into the need for guidelines, which was also published yesterday.

Psychologists call for caution on drug treatment for hyperactive children



Louis Coole with his mother Jackie: "He feels bad about himself. His self-esteem is nil"

Chris Mihill and Jane Alfred

HYPERACTIVE children are being treated unnecessarily with amphetamine-like drugs in place of more appropriate forms of therapy, psychologists say today.

fer from ADHD. Nine out of 10 of those given that diagnosis then receive stimulant drugs. But British psychologists are concerned that problem children are being unnecessarily treated with drugs for behavioural problems which they will eventually grow out of.

Martin Guerre adopts new guise as producer answers his critics

PREVIEW audiences didn't understand it, critics maulled it and audiences have been lukewarm. Now Sir Cameron Mackintosh, producer of hit West End shows Les Miserables and Miss Saigon, has bowed to market forces and announced that Martin Guerre, the musical, is to be rejigged.

Handicapped are 'in acute need of more housing'

THE report by the inquiry, under Gillian Wagner, is said to be the most comprehensive analysis of the community care needs of people with learning disabilities, estimated at between 500,000 and more than a million.

'I have taught children with special needs, but this beat me'

LOUIS, aged 11, thinks nothing of hailing women with "Hello, you old bitch!", or calling his granny "vermin".

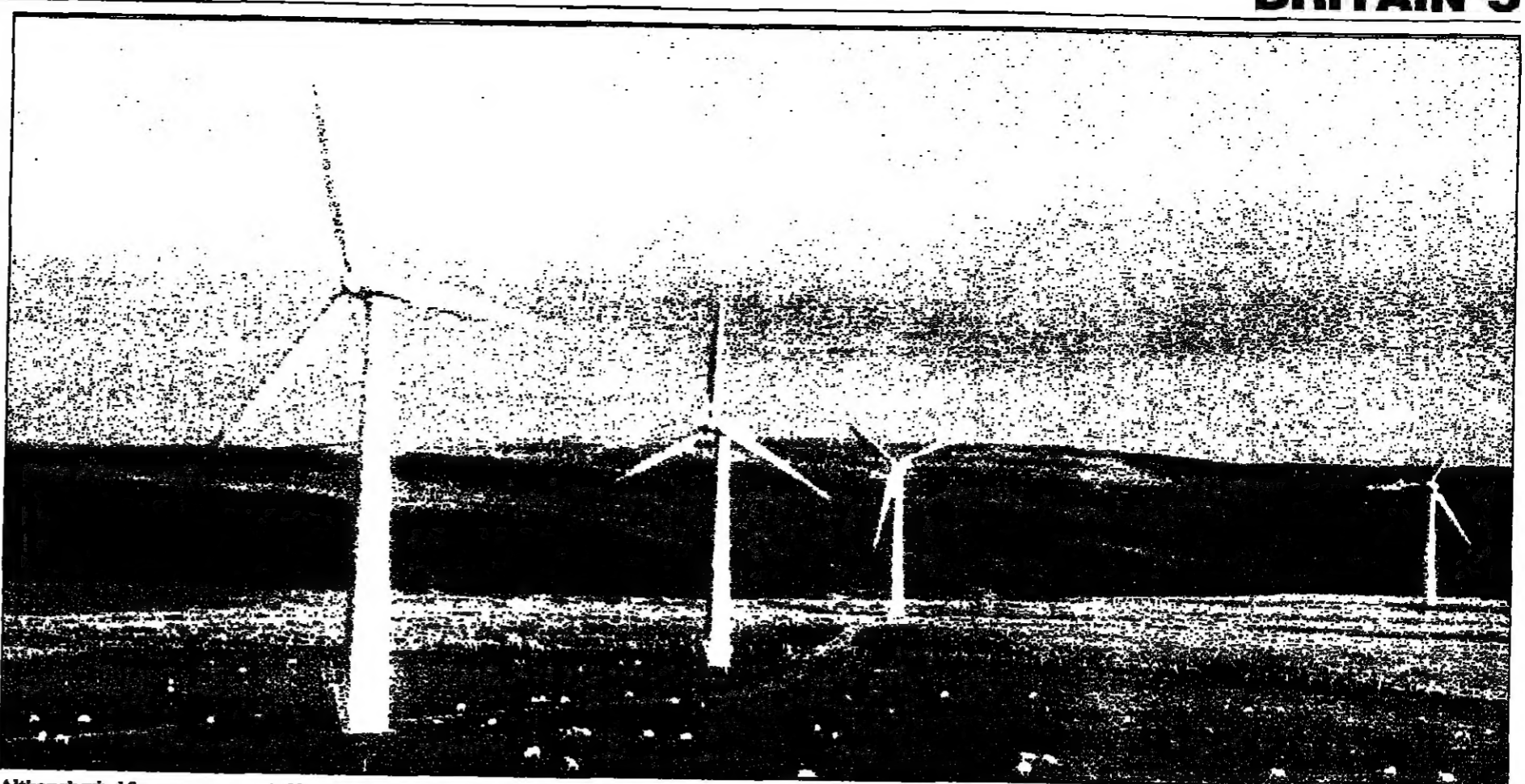
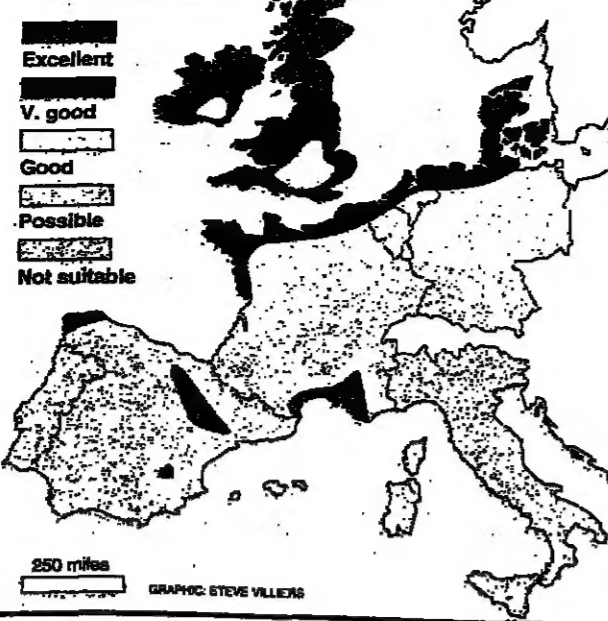
fuls of food around and tearing a new teddy bear to pieces. People blamed her for failing to control her child. She and her husband tightened up on discipline, but Louis just got worse.

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Potential Wind resource. Inghar. Crossword decipher. TV aims. Rantzen says he...

مكازم التحصيل

Potential wind resource



Although wind farms are supported by up to 80 per cent of people, and Britain has 40 per cent of Europe's potential wind power, the Country Guardian group has helped block most plans

Ex-Thatcher aide delighted at group's success in thwarting schemes which stop renewable energy targets being met

Ingham protest blows out national wind farm plan

Paul Brown Environment Correspondent

SMALL but highly organised pressure group involving Sir Bernard Ingham, Margaret Thatcher's former press secretary, is blocking attempts to build wind farms and is preventing the Government reaching its targets for renewable energy, the British Wind Energy Association said yesterday.

tion said that the highly organised Country Guardian group was successful in stopping 77 per cent of planning applications for wind farms by letter-writing campaigns to councillors. Environmental campaigner Jonathan Porritt said: "Much of what they say is ill-informed, narrow-minded emotional rubbish, but one cannot deny it has been very effective."

people in all surveys wanted more wind power, and only between 2 and 10 per cent wanted it stopped. The UK has 550 wind turbines producing electricity for 40,000 homes, about 10 per cent of Europe's total. The UK has about 40 per cent of Europe's potential wind power but is using less than 1 per cent of it.

Worldwide, the wind energy industry was now worth \$1 billion, and that would double by the turn of the century. Britain needed a firm domestic order book to provide a launch pad for exports, which the industry estimated could provide 12,000 extra jobs.

although prices were coming down all the time. Charles Secrett, executive director of Friends of the Earth, said that if the true costs of global warming and acid rain were included, wind power looked very cheap. It was the most advanced renewable technology.

try, said his support of nuclear power had no effect on his opposition to wind power. He was against wind turbines because of the damage to the landscape.

things. Environmental campaigners that support these things are clearly aesthetically dead. They produce so little electricity that they hardly make any difference to the problem.

ular wind farms. The individuals paid £10 a year and the rest £20. One person had given £2,750 but there was no industry backing for the campaign, which was carried out by a dedicated band of individuals.

Crossword puzzle pundits decipher Morse code for E

John Ezard on the mysterious initial of Oxford's most famous detective



John Thaw: character named after Cook's ship

CHIEF Inspector Morse's long-hidden Christian name was revealed yesterday as a 33-1 outsider: Endeavour.

It was bestowed on the television detective by parents besotted by Quakerism and the explorer Captain Cook, whose ship was called Endeavour.

Even as a crossword puzzle, what publishers billed as "the last great Morse mystery" turned out distinctly substandard. The answer was disclosed before ordinary readers had a chance to scan the clues in Colin Dexter's new Morse novel, Death is Now My Neighbour, published yesterday.

Books Etc. in London, had people queuing round the shop and half way down the block.

Maurice Early, aged 63, a crossword buff and retired telephone operator, had travelled by coach from Brighton to be there. Mr Early, who like Mr Dexter cut his teeth on the Observer's Ximenes crossword, said after hearing the book's clues, that Endeavour was the clear answer.

Mr Dexter was as pleased as his publishers at the lucrative turnout and betting shop fervour, boosted by a teaser advertising campaign. He said the name came from a friend of his wife who knew two New England sisters christened Detective and Endeavour.

ITV aims for top ratings

£800m network strategy seeks to revamp weak Saturday night

Andrew Cuff Media Correspondent

ITV yesterday outlined its £800 million strategy for 1997, designed to reinforce its position as Britain's most popular channel.

ratings performance during the spring and summer, although it opened up a nine-point gap over BBC1 in the first week of the autumn season.

ing American series and movies. On Saturday night, the network's Achilles heel, original drama from Britain and the US will be used to combat the pulling power of the National Lottery Live on BBC1.

Comedy, another traditional area of weakness for ITV, is to be bolstered by Loved By You, starring John Gordon Sinclair and Holding the Baby, featuring Nick Hancock.

Rantzen says her TV career is in jeopardy

ESTHER Rantzen fears that her future with the BBC is at stake following criticism of her journalistic methods, writes Andrew Cuff.

day Telegraph "has put my whole television career in jeopardy". Mr Birt ordered an inquiry into the row. Its findings are expected soon. The BBC said: "Ms Rantzen gave her evidence to the inquiry on a confidential basis and had no wish for it to be made public."

Mr Ware criticised Ms Rantzen for a programme in which hidden cameras were used to show that a brain-damaged patient was allegedly being neglected in hospital. Ms Rantzen listed 11 alleged inaccuracies in the article and made 12 detailed defences of the programme.

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ion on drug children

October 8th... price cut... COME ON YOU RORY.

Lack of money can seriously damage the health of those facing major surgery. David Hearst reports from Moscow

# Prices that break Russian hearts

**'If you asked me where I would operate on a relative or a loved one, I would send them to a Western clinic'**

THREE prospective patients sat silently in the dark windowless admissions room of the Scientific Centre of Surgery in Moscow, one of only four hospitals in Russia where heart bypass surgery is regularly performed.

A doctor entered, his white coat crumpled and unbuttoned. As a member of the "medical commission" it is his job to decide who to admit. He walked towards a young man wearing a rich brown leather jacket. The man leapt to his feet, instinctively reaching for his back pocket. "No no, the doctor protested as a wad of 100,000 rouble notes instantly appeared. "Later, later..."

"Of course, you know what you need to get in, don't you?" said the man on his left, a factory boss from the Urals. "Money."

"Do you think it was any different in the old days?" retorted a woman sitting in the corner, an accountant from Rostov-on-Don. "You had to pay for everything. You had to pay even the nurse before she would take away your urine sample, and every-one knew this."

This is what the ordinary Russian faces on entering a medical centre for major surgery. On the other side of the admission room's plain white door leading to the restricted world of medical treatment, three doctors and a nurse sat debating the rights and wrongs of private medicine.

"We do do free operations," mused one. "Remember that five-year-old we operated on? I mean how can you refuse an operation to a person brought in in an emergency?" she asked the assembled company.

Very easily, judging by the story looks of her colleagues. The subject soon turned to pay and conditions. "I have worked here for 35 years and do you know what I get as a nurse — 160,000 roubles [about £20] a month."

The woman doctor beside her explained: "This centre is financed only from the budget of the Academy of Science, which is very small. Last winter we were all sent on two month's unpaid leave."

So that was it. If the patients did not pay, the doctors did not get paid. Hence the existence of a thick black file in the outpatients polyclinic containing a medical "menu".

## Fury at Yeltsin 'cover-up'

David Hearst in Moscow

GENNADY ZYUGANOV, Russia's Communist leader, called on President Yeltsin to resign yesterday, saying that the cover-up of his heart attack in the final days of the election campaign amounted to fraud.

"The elections were not fair," Mr Zyuganov said. His call was backed by Gennady Seleznev, the Communist Speaker of the State Duma, who said Mr Yeltsin should step down if doctors decided tomorrow that he was too ill for an operation.

When parliament meets next week the Communist faction, the largest in the Duma, has promised to table a long-standing proposal that a medical commission should judge the fitness of the president and all top state figures.

Both statements were ignored on the state-run media and official news agencies, and the Kremlin maintained complete silence on the medical crisis for the second day running.

No one in power has commented on the revelation made four days ago by Professor Renat Akchurin, the surgeon chosen to perform heart-bypass surgery, that the president's heart was damaged by a heart attack just before the second round of elections in July. There has been a further report that he suffered a stroke and could work for only 15 minutes a day.

Junior presidential spokesmen have maintained that everything is proceeding as normal. "All I can tell you is that Michael Dobecky has arrived," said one.

advise the surgical team. An international congress on the history of cardiovascular surgery opens in Moscow today, in the absence of any official information from the Kremlin, the foreign participants are due to hold a press conference.

Tomorrow the "collegium" of Russian heart specialists will decide whether to operate on Mr Yeltsin. Little is known of how they will arrive at their decision or to whom they are responsible. They, too, are expected to hold a press conference.

The split among the Kremlin doctors widened when Prof Akchurin publicly criticised the medical team responsible for the president's day-to-day health, in particular for letting Mr Yeltsin shoot and hunt at his lodge in Zavidovo with the German Chancellor, Helmut Kohl.

"I saw Boris Nikolayevich [Yeltsin] two or three weeks ago. We have looked at results of his Zavidovo period. I cannot say I was too pleased with the results. He was tiring himself by hunting, fishing. This is not something we can recommend for this sort of patient."

While the medical case for postponing the operation for up to two months may be quite clear to Prof Akchurin, the political consequences of being ruled by a lame duck are not.

Unless the doctors come out with a clear statement, pressure will increase on Mr Yeltsin to sign a decree handing over all his powers to his prime minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin.

An opinion poll published in today's *Izvestia* found that 76 per cent of those asked believed that Mr Yeltsin was not in control of his post.



Rebel Chechen fighters pose for a photograph with a former colleague, Aminov, before her wedding ceremony in the capital Grozny at the weekend. The bride and her husband-to-be both fought in the rebel unit led by the Chechen field commander Shamil Basayev. PHOTOGRAPH: NATALIA MEDVEDOVA

## West 'covering up mass fraud in Bosnian polls'

continued from page 1 in Bosnia for every eight polling stations. "When the polls closed, about 70 per cent of the polling stations were totally unsupervised, and under control of the DECs (local election commissions)," one Western observer said.

There are serious discrepancies across the country but the most egregious fraud appears to have been in Muslim-dominated areas. An OSCE source said that in central Sarajevo alone, 30,000 votes appear to have been cast on half of dead or missing Muslims. The number of voters is also suspiciously high around the Muslim-held town of Bihac in the north-west.

The head of the International Crisis Group office in Sarajevo, Sir Terence Clark, a former British diplomat, said yesterday: "We call on the OSCE to explain the discrepancy and if it can only be explained by fraud, then they should declare the elections null and void."

### Britain named as land forces commander after I-For troops pull out

BRITAIN'S Lieutenant-General Roddy Cordy-Simpson has been named as land forces commander in Bosnia when and if Nato's I-For peace implementation force pulls out at the end of the year, writes David Fairhall.

In effect he will replace General Sir Michael Walker in Sarajevo, although he gets the job by virtue of being deputy commander of Nato's central European headquarters — Landcom — rather than as commander of the rapid reaction force.

Gen Cordy-Simpson, commissioned into the 13th/18th Royal Hussars in 1963, has previously served in Bosnia with the United Nations, setting up its headquarters at Kiseljak.

His early appointment will enable preparations for the handover between the two headquarters to go ahead immediately, even though most of the I-For troops are expected to stay until December and no final decisions on their successors have yet been taken.

Whereas Britain provides about 1,200 people for the Nato rapid reaction corps HQ — about 70 per cent of the total — the Landcom headquarters in Germany contains only 240 Britons.

Gen Cordy-Simpson's chief of staff will be another British soldier, Major-General John Drewienkiewicz.

Jonathan Steele adds: The European Institute for the Media, which monitored Bosnian television and radio broadcasts throughout the campaign, said "the fairness of the democratic process was seriously marred".

The European Commission, which funded the media monitoring project, initially tried to soften its hard-hitting findings and then vainly urged the institute to delay publication of its report, a member of the team said.

Based on the polling day observations of international monitors, the document assumes an 80 per cent turnout, but concedes this "is probably higher than the real turnout". If 80 per cent of Bosnia's voters had cast their ballots, the maximum number of voters would have been 1.89 million — 600,000 less than the actual number reported.

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by UN and Bosnian statisticians arrived at estimates of 2,936,000 to 2,987,000.

On September 16, two days after the elections, a document accepting these figures was approved and signed, by representatives of the OSCE, the UN, and the Nato-led peace implementation force in Bosnia, I-For.

radically revised downwards the war's death toll. It suggests there are 200,000 more voters now than in 1990. "It's as if nobody died at all throughout the entire war," a UN analyst said.

Diplomats say the estimate of a 2.9 million electorate was first put forward by OSCE experts in April. Three studies

for 24 hours on October 17 to press for wage increases and protest against government plans to reduce state payrolls. — Reuter.

**Gunman's plea**  
The Turkish gunman who almost killed the Pope in 1981, Ali Mehmet Agca, has asked Italy for a pardon from a life sentence or a transfer to a jail in Turkey, his lawyer said yesterday. — Reuter.

**Greek mandate**  
The Greek prime minister, Costas Simitis, said yesterday he had received a mandate from the president, Costas Stefanopoulos, to form a Socialist government for the next four years. — Reuter.

**Drugs haul**  
Colombian police and soldiers destroyed more than a tonne of cocaine and cocaine paste after a raid on a drug labora-

tory in the south-east province of Guaviare, the authorities said yesterday. — Reuter.

**Aid workers flee**  
A Red Cross organisation flew three aid workers out of the east Zaire town of Bukavu yesterday after heavy shelling by Rwanda. — Reuter.

**Peacekeepers hurt**  
Four UN peacekeepers from Brazil were wounded in Angola on Sunday when their vehicle hit a land mine in the central province of Bie, the state news agency Angop said yesterday. — Reuter.

**Hopes raised**  
Austria's president, Thomas Klestil, regained consciousness yesterday after three days on an artificial respirator, doctors said, lifting the secrecy around his illness since he entered hospital on September 13. — Reuter.

## Speaker's creaking bedsprings cause Finnish MPs to groan

Jon Henley in Helsinki

THE first time she made love to her future husband, the bed broke. Thirty-five years on, they are still rampantly at it — and the female Speaker of the Finnish parliament has written a book to prove it.

Riitta Uosukainen — the "Betty Boothroyd" of Finland — has sparked uproar with a book of imaginary letters, *Fluttering Flame*. Its first run, of 17,000 copies, sold out in three days in a land where politics are generally a sedate business, and the sexual freedom of nearby Sweden and Denmark has yet to be fully accepted.

Ms Uosukainen, aged 54, the highest-ranking politician after President Martti Ahtisaari and tipped as the

Conservatives' next candidate to succeed him, details her bedroom romps with her husband, Toivo, an army officer.

The tall and imposing former education minister with a no-nonsense reputation writes to "Mr U" in 1996: "Thanks for a wonderful weekend, for all the good loving. I submit to another person only when making love. Take me..."

Ms Uosukainen's fellow parliamentarians have been outraged by the book, which is equally blunt about some of them. She describes one MP as "a rattlesnake", another as "a porcupine politician".

The Speaker has defended her book, telling one newspaper: "There shouldn't be anything strange about a middle-aged woman enjoying herself".

## Socialists favour women

Paul Webster in Paris

ALMOST a third of Socialist Party candidates in France's next general election will be women, following a recent agreement reached despite some male opposition.

Some of the 164 female nominees will face powerful rightwing leaders and have little chance of success.

But at least 40 women are likely to enter parliament in the March 1998 poll if the Socialists recover from their 1995 reverse, in which they lost more than 200 seats and retained only 53. Opinion polls suggest that the left should win back a majority in the 555-seat national assembly.

liament only three are Socialists. Leftwing leaders, including Francois Mitterrand, often said they would introduce positive

**'It's much easier to give up a seat to a woman in a bus than in the national assembly'**

discrimination, but the present Socialist Party first secretary, Lionel Jospin, had to fight to get the measure through.

A former prime minister, Laurent Fabius, whose

local federation in Normandy tried to resist the measure against his advice, said: "It's much easier to give up a seat to a woman in a bus than in the national assembly."

But some campaigners remain unsatisfied. "We must go even further. We seem to have been given the honour of going down with flying colours against some of the most formidable rightwing leaders," said Yvette Roudy, a former women's rights minister.

Meanwhile, all opposition parties will meet on Thursday to prepare joint action against Jean-Marie Le Pen's far-right National Front.

It will be the first summit of its kind since the Union de la Gauche collapsed nearly 20 years ago.

### News in brief

#### Challenge to election ban

The former Bulgarian prime minister, Reneta Indzhova, said yesterday she would appeal to the supreme court against the central electoral committee's refusal to register her for October's presidential election because her running-mate is still serving in the army. — Reuter.

**Armenia result**  
Armenia's president, Levon Ter-Petrosian, who won 57 per cent of the vote in the presidential election, claimed a "brilliant victory" yesterday as the opposition claimed vote fraud and held a huge rally in Yerevan. — Reuter.

**Strike date**  
France's largest public sector unions urged 4 million state workers yesterday to strike

for 24 hours on October 17 to press for wage increases and protest against government plans to reduce state payrolls. — Reuter.

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Treaty to end 5 of nucle

Stopgap replaces

مكاتب التحرير

# Treaty signing to end 50 years of nuclear tests

San Black in New York

**H**ALF a century of nuclear tests is due to end formally today when President Clinton leads the world's five declared nuclear powers in signing the comprehensive Test Ban Treaty at the United Nations.

Mr Clinton will be the only head of state there to sign, but Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, and his counterparts from France, China and Russia will follow him later in the day.

Israel, with a known but undeclared offensive nuclear capability, will also sign. So will Iran, accused by Washington of harbouring clandestine nuclear ambitions. All Akbar Velayati, Iran's foreign minister, lashed out at the US in his UN speech yesterday for its "direct and indirect political and technical support of one state [Israel] in its nuclear weapons programme."

India and Pakistan — the other so-called "threshold states" — remain outside the treaty.

Legal complexities leave it in doubt whether the treaty creates a binding commitment to stop testing. In all, 44 states — including India which blocked it at the Geneva disarmament conference — have to ratify it before it takes effect and full verification can begin.

But anti-nuclear groups are hailing it as a landmark in the history of arms control and environmental protection which, they say, could hasten moves towards disarmament by the big powers.

Greenpeace called the signing "an historic moment", coinciding with the organisation's 25th anniversary in protest at nuclear testing by the United States of Alaska.

Final agreement was reached at the United Nations two weeks ago when an overwhelming majority of countries endorsed the treaty. The US, Russia, China, France and Britain have already signed, though Britain, which conducted its tests in the Nevada desert, was forced by Mr Clinton's unilateral moratorium in 1992.

Today's ceremony has its origins in pressure from non-nuclear and non-aligned countries which resented the "apartheid" smearing in last year's renewal of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty and were outraged by renewed

French testing in the Pacific.

Despite the loose ends, the treaty still has enormous value. "The moral force of signature will create a norm of international behaviour which we believe will ensure that the Chinese test in July 1996 will be the last nuclear test anywhere by anybody," said Thomas Graham, the US disarmament envoy.

"It's an extremely good treaty," said Dan Fiesch of the British American Security Information Council.

"The chances of tests being banned for ever are very good indeed despite the continued resistance of the nuclear establishments in every state, especially in Britain."

The treaty bans all nuclear test explosions — there have been more than 2,000 since the first at Los Alamos, New Mexico, in July 1945. It will not make the further development of weapons impossible, but any development will be limited and of doubtful quality.

Some analysts complain that nuclear establishments only agreed to the treaty because they now have sophisticated computer simulation techniques that will allow them to maintain existing systems, such as Britain's submarine-launched Trident missile.

Mr Fiesch disagreed. "It is a grave exaggeration to describe this as a fraud, that it is just putting testing into computers. Computers are not that good. If you want sophisticated nuclear devices you need to be able to test," he said.

Diplomatic conventions state that nothing should undermine an international treaty waiting to come into force. So states will have given a legally-binding commitment once they sign the agreement. Diplomats say the likely way forward is a process that will allow the treaty to enter into force without agreement by India.

But the danger is that without a binding treaty, the big powers may be tempted to involve national interest and resume tests to upgrade their arsenals.

The Marshall Islands appealed yesterday for international help to deal with damage caused by nuclear tests after the second world war, when it was part of a UN Trust Territory administered by the US. The islands in the Pacific include Bikini and other atolls.



An Israeli soldier discovers a window of opportunity in the Old Wall in east Jerusalem

PHOTOGRAPH BY PAUL O'DRISCOLL

## Divided by a wall of silence

The east-west rift in Jerusalem is never starker than on Yom Kippur, writes Derek Brown

**W**ALKING home from work in Jerusalem is always a pleasure. The route is splendid: through the ancient Mamilla burial ground, skirting the Jaffa Gate and fairytale walls of the Old City, past the grand King David Hotel and through a park overlooking Mount Zion.

is to see another side to Yom Kippur: an awesome discipline, unity, single-mindedness. It is also the day when the city's divisions are laid bare.

Families strolled in the middle of Hebron Road, normally a torrent of motorised halfwits. Men hunched in prayer shawls strode towards the Western Wall, and from synagogues grand and humble rose the steady chant of worship.

Throughout the city, or at least its western half, Jews, some permanently pious and others only occasionally so, fasted and prayed. Or, in the case of the latter, closed their doors and win-

cars scuttled along empty roads, but shops were mostly shuttered by noon and there was a palpable silence. At the determined hour the great siren atop the Russian Quarter sounded, and the last semblance of normality evaporated.

Long before then, the raucous clamour that is the usual condition of the streets of Jerusalem had dwindled and died. A few

drivers daft enough to take to the road risk being stoned by vigilantes. But bicycles are OK in the eyes of the Lord

It's deemed bad form to smoke in the street, to eat or drink — or even carry food. For some Israelis, the only sensible approach to Yom Kippur is to leave Jerusalem for a less pious place. Tourists and foreign residents have an easier option: to nip over to the city's east side.

## Stoppag leader replaces Rao

Suzanna Goldenberg in New Delhi

**I**NDIA'S Congress Party turned to a faithful retainer last night to replace P. V. Narasimha Rao as leader after the former prime minister resigned as party chief in advance of a criminal trial.

coalition government. His influence was apparent yesterday when party leaders called for him to stay on.

Mr Kesi, who is from the Hindi-speaking northern state of Bihar, appeared to accept his unexpected elevation to interim party president with the customary courtesy of Indian politicians. "There are better leaders than me in the Congress," he told reporters before the executive meeting at Mr Rao's house which to choose the new chief.



A banner outside the Congress Party headquarters in New Delhi depicts Mr Rao

Mr Rao announced his departure as party president on Saturday after a judge ordered him to stand trial on charges of swindling about \$250 million from a British-based pickle manufacturer.

his departure as an opportunity to clean up the party's image and win back Muslim and Dalit voters in the Hindi-speaking heartland, where the party has been relegated to third place.

## Troops 'corner Kurdish rebels'

Ferit Demir in Tunceli

**U**P TO 20,000 Turkish troops, backed by air power, launched a huge drive yesterday against Kurdish rebels in the remote mountains of eastern Turkey.

## Dhaka judges deliver respite for Begum Zia

Arazad Mahmud in Dhaka

**G**OVERNMENT moves against Khaleda Zia, Bangladesh's main opposition leader and former prime minister, faltered briefly yesterday when the high court ordered the prosecution to reveal all the evidence against two of her close relatives who have been charged with corruption.

Bank. The money is said to have been granted on the direct orders of Begum Zia when she was in power.

Begum Zia and her associates are likely to be charged soon. But Begum Zia's Bangladesh National Party has said the move was politically motivated, designed to tarnish her image.

Government troops killed six Kurdish fighters in the clashes and arrested one, villagers near the fighting said. There was no word of casualties among the security forces.

Begum Zia's son and brother were formally charged with taking illegal loans totalling 170 million taka (\$2.5 million) from the government-owned Sonali

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## World news in brief

### Korean submarine claim cuts no ice

**T**HE United States defence secretary, William Perry, yesterday rejected North Korea's claim that its submarine which foundered off South Korea last week was on a routine training mission, but he called on Seoul and Pyongyang to calm down.

### End of the road for Lamour

**D**OROTHY LAMOUR, the Hollywood star known for her portrayals in the 1930s and 1940s of exotic South Sea heroines wrapped in the silk sarong that became her trademark, died on Sunday in her Los Angeles home at the age of 81.

### Battle 'claims 200 Tamils'

**S**RI LANKAN troops killed or wounded more than 200 Tamil Tiger rebels in their first major push against the guerrillas in more than a month, a military spokesman said yesterday.

### Sudan accused of bomb raid

**S**UDANESE government warplanes bombed a town in northern Uganda on Sunday but there were no immediate reports of casualties, aid workers said yesterday.

### Santer backs transport plan

**T**HE EUROPEAN Commission president, Jacques Santer, is to press European Union finance ministers to produce a plan for increasing spending on road and rail links between European member countries, a Commission spokesman said yesterday.

### Warm welcome for Cubans

**E**IGHT Cubans relaxed in deck chairs and enjoyed snacks brought to them by Florida residents when they landed in Miami Beach yesterday after more than two days at sea in a wooden boat from Cuba, police said.

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**As the immediate source of the story on Harold Pinter and Joan Bakewell, I feel a little battered myself.**  
Michael Billington

G2 cover story

If you ask me where I would operate on relative or loved ones I would send them to a Western clinic!

As for Yeltsin, the surgeons say his liver is gone. I think they should put him down!



A PUBLIC LOGY TO B...

Talking and bombing

Yesterday's raids need not stall the peace talks

NO ONE will ever know who they are, but there are people alive this morning who would have been killed by the IRA this week had the police not done what they did yesterday.

As ever, there are alternative ways of looking at the evidence. Some observers claim that the twin track tactics of republican politicians and terrorists are not coordinated at all, that they are proof at least of erratic decision-making within the republican movement and possibly that Mr Adams and Martin McGuinness do not control the entire republican movement.

Yet relief is the easy bit. Yesterday's raids also raise wider questions about the IRA's intentions, and have inevitable implications for developments in Northern Ireland.

Much therefore depends on the Northern Ireland talks, which are now at a tantalising and delicate moment. The two main political parties, the Unionists and the SDLP, appear quite close to what would be an important agreement on the talks agenda.

A virtue unable to speak its name

Politicians ignore it but tactical voting may swing the election

SURPRISINGLY little has been heard about tactical voting over the last few years. The excitement and detailed speculation that the idea used to provoke when it was first seriously propounded in the run-up to the 1987 general election have ebbed away recently.

that sparked angry exchanges yesterday, provoking Menzies Campbell, one of the party's least tribal MPs, to distance himself from the proposal.

Speaking at the Guardian's fringe meeting at the Liberal Democrat conference yesterday, Lord Rodgers put the issue firmly back on today's agenda. In a powerful speech, the former member of the SDP Gang of Four called on Liberal Democrat voters to vote Labour at the next general election if the Labour candidate in their local constituency stands a better chance of defeating the Conservative.

Yet that is because, deep down, these activists know that tactical voting is here to stay for as long as the Conservatives remain in power. The 17 years of Tory rule have rightly stimulated an immense readiness among many voters to subordinate their first preference to the need to defeat the Conservatives.

All wired up but nothing to pay

Commerce has found it impossible to colonise the Net

COMPANIES hooked up to the Internet — the world-wide network of computers enabling users to access anything from electronic newspapers to video clips — are worried their staff are wasting time "surfing the Net" instead of working, according to a report published yesterday.

charge for the magazine but meets customer resistance. As Dr Myhrvold says, why pay for stuff on the Net when a million free sites are a mere click away?

The reason according to Nathan Myhrvold, a top executive at Microsoft, is simple: content is chasing customers and not vice versa. He writes in the new issue of the Microsoft-funded electronic magazine, Slate, published on the Net yesterday. Microsoft would like to

But what is bad news for corporations is a joy for free-loading punters. Against strong commercial pressures the Internet has (so far) maintained the philosophy of its founding fathers by being a Utopian economy where most products are free. Instead of commerce colonising the Net, the reverse has happened. Products have — enforcedly — been given away free ranging from 30 million copies of the Netscape browser software to hundreds of newspapers.

NEW LIBDEMS



Letters to the Editor

Of sex, sin and the Bishop

OF COURSE I shall pray for Jeremy Hardy (A wing, a prayer and quick fix, September 21), as I hope he will for me, if he wants to. But what Hardy wants is the puzzle.

As one who was ordained two years ago, I know that the atmosphere in which I was trained made a mature, considered option for life-long celibacy impossible.

whom she quotes so lovingly — chiefly rose to fame as the apparition chosen by Rome to suppress this "heresy" and invent the primacy of "original sin".

celibacy. Have these women no will power? Are they unable to say "No"? Mary Fowell, Ross Way, Eatham SE9.

THIS past week, in several places, I have been invited to pray for the Roman Catholic Church in Scotland, for the healing of wounds and the rebuilding of lives.

ALICE Thomas Ellis (Why my tastes remain strictly Catholic, September 21) wrongly believes "liberalism" to be a modern Catholic phenomenon.

THE women in this case appear to be getting an undue amount of sympathy. They know that Catholic priests have taken a vow of

IN the "bidding" for the young vote at the next election nothing is going to beat a firm promise to do something about house prices.

Present prices are outside all reason and make a nonsense of the contention that we are enjoying a higher standard of living.

WHY does Canon Law take precedence over the advice of St Paul — "It is better to marry than to burn" (1 Corinthians, Ch 7 v 8). Surely the precepts handed down by a father of your church are of greater import than the laws made by a medieval Pope?

IN his remarks on Sue Douglas and the Sunday Express (Guardian Media, September 16) Roy Greenslade says: "The paper was in free fall on her arrival".

AN irritating aspect of the Roderick Wright affair has been the platitudinous comment by certain senior clerics about the miraculous improvements which have, supposedly, been made to the training of Catholic priests.



Style file

SOME years ago I too indulged in an exercise to improve my public image (Real value of the 680m squiggles, September 19). I gave my rusty old Capri a respray in a subtle shade of paint called "Rootas mid-grey".

IT was very pleasing to read (Letters, September 19) of Roger Ward's solidarity with those in the further education sector. His description of funding cuts in recent years is very accurate, and one hopes that in his new role as Chief Executive of the Association of Colleges he will plead this desperate case as he visits each party conference.

learning and experience. He owes this to today's over-worked college lecturers, and to the hundreds of former colleagues who view this from the outside, having taken their skills and experience elsewhere.

Not only did he create the repulsive torch bearer logo, but also involved BT in a multi-million pound operation to respray their entire fleet from bright, eye-catching yellow to exactly the same colour as my old Capri.

Those holding education briefs in the major parties will of course recognise the same Roger Ward who has single-handedly brought despair, division and the lowest possible morale into further education. His introduction of new unregulated lecturer contracts "in order to fulfil the government cutbacks he now claims to oppose, has led to disaffection on an enormous scale (he refers to this as "efficiency" and "productivity").

After three years of commitment to drive down lecturers' pay and at the same time forcibly to extract "efficiency gains" from them, it is belatedly clear that the current plight of further education funding.

WALLY Ollins describes the BT logo as "the prancing pooter". Not so, it is, as Clive James pointed out, "an hermaphrodite performing fellatio".

YOUR report (Poor hope of rich pickings, September 13) fails to inform your readers of the reality of the Lottery Sports Fund.

Both with their emphasis on youth development, meet the leading criteria — that of equity of access and public benefit.

Please include a full postal address, even on e-mailed letters, and a telephone number. We may edit letters: shorter ones are more likely to appear. We regret we cannot acknowledge those not used.

PERHAPS the rules of chess should be revised to include another piece — the Pope, which would move in mysterious ways to block any diagonal transgression of the Bishop.

Complaint cut to the quick

THE use of mobile phones with an external ringing sound can be banned under the Noise Abatement Act (Letters, September 20). Alternatives are:

Ringing off

THE ESTEREL. At this time of year, and in this place, you can normally tell the date accurately by the swallows.

They take you up into scrubland, the fringe of one of the little mountains, too sheer and jagged to be called hills, that are frequent along this edge of the Mediterranean.

Express post

Free fall? The last ABC figures for when I was editor (published in Guardian Media in January) at £32,194 showed a month on month fall of only 0.05 per cent — or just 710 copies. This was in a month when Sunday papers taken as a whole were down 138,513.

A Country Diary

THE ESTEREL. At this time of year, and in this place, you can normally tell the date accurately by the swallows. They colonise every inch of the ledges on sea-side buildings, pausing, exactly according to schedule, for a few days' respite on the Cote d'Azur, before flying on south to winter in Africa.

مكتبة النخيل



Diary

Matthew Norman

WITH Labour's NEC due tomorrow to lay to rest the vexed matter of Leeds North East, this seems the perfect time for a brief recap of the affair. The candidate who didn't make it is Liz Davies, the leftwing lawyer from Islington who was derailed by a... and most damagingly, over the claim that she incited a violent mob at a council meeting - a claim for which the three councillors who made it apologised last week in the High Court. The candidate to be confirmed by the NEC tomorrow, meanwhile, is the Blairite Leeds councillor Fabian Hamilton. When the Guardian reported his unfortunate business career - one that includes several bankrupt graphic design firms and numerous failures to file accounts - Mr Hamilton wrote, pointing out that he has done nothing illegal or immoral - something the DTI will doubtless soon confirm. Of seven party members, Mr Hamilton's judgement is, in my view, one, laid in March this year, is for £1,686 of unpaid personal tax. So we wish Mr Hamilton all the best with the Tory marginal. Perhaps, who knows, there may be a place for him in Gordon Brown's Treasury team.

PREPARING his script for a Newswatch item last week on the day the story broke, Jeremy Paxman described Bishop of Exeter as a "one of Scotland's leading left-wingers". Naturally, he removed the jokey line long before he went on air - but not, alas, before the script had reached the Ceefax subtitles office, as the number of complaints from deaf Catholics confirms.

I AM intrigued by an independent interview with actor Christopher Eccleston, star of Our Friends in the North. Although prepared to plug his latest role in Jude, and to confirm his age as 32, Mr Eccleston refuses to discuss anything else, however impersonal. For example, asked by Robert Crampton what his father did for a living, he replies: "No, I won't give it to you. I'm not prepared to do it. Forget it." Since Mr Eccleston clearly has a problem with this, the Daily Express wishes to collate the biographical detail, so that future interviewees need not torment him. So if you know Mr Eccleston in school or drama school or as a friend of the family, please get in touch. A bottle of champagne for each new fact.

DIARY item of a month ago, in which we mused on Harold Evans's possible plans to return to Blighty, has proved uncannily, and characteristically, prescient. Daily Express columnist Peter Taylor, whose recollections of an acting career have so enchanted readers of the new French, reports that "a chum of mine saw Mr Evans in a corner shop in Minister Lovell the other day", and that "Mr Evans told my chum he was 'trying the rectory'". All credit to Mr Taylor for what is, by any standards, just as good a scoop as the London Evening Standard's report of September 4 that Mr Evans was buying the Old Rectory, in Minister Lovell in Oxfordshire.

ELSEWHERE at the Express group, meanwhile, there is concern that Richard Addis may duplicate the poaching strategy that marked his early editorship of the Daily Express. Now he has his hands on the Sunday title, the obvious target is the Mail on Sunday and its columnist. One rumour suggests that Mr Addis is after Oswald, the white cotton handkerchief to which his owner, Jonathan Holborow, a former shepherd, chats excitedly at times of tension. "God help us if Oswald defects," says one executive. "That's frankly been running things here for ages, and it's doubtful whether Holborow could do without him."

IN New York, a newly wed woman is suing a radio station after being announced the winner of an "ugliest bride" contest. Two DJs from WFPX picked the bride they considered most hideous from a local paper, reports the Associated Press, and invited listeners to guess her identity.



# The offer Ashdown won't refuse

## Commentary

Hugo Young

THIS Liberal Democrat conference may be the last of its kind. We are present at what could soon be a museum piece. But the party members attending in Brighton seem insufficiently aware of the historic moment in which they are perhaps participating. Before the autumn ritual begins next year, they may have received an offer to become a party of government. And their leaders may have accepted it. If that happens, next year's gathering at Eastbourne will be utterly unlike the exercise in painless pleasantries and pious self-regard that the Lib Dem conference has recently become.

The scenario can be written on the basis of evidence that has, I think, been under-rated. Tony Blair sees rather little reason why it shouldn't happen. He's been much taken with readings of history that only underline the missed opportunities of centre-left politics resulting from the poor organisation of the progressive project early this century.

That much has been trailed as the product of his summer reading. Less well advertised is the extremity of the moral he draws for the future. Yet the moral is to be seen quite clearly in other parts of his opinions. Blair has reformed the Labour Party, but remains deeply scornful of party seen as a tribe, which is the way most British politicians see it. The party is an instrument, not a goal in itself. What drives Blair is movement politics: the ethical, reformist, progressive ideal which, he is convinced, speaks to a majority of the British. In this the Liberal Democrats, on whom he has never accepted even the cheapest small change of disrespect, are natural partners. In private conversation, he has made clear to more than one of my acquaintances that he would be very happy to have Paddy Ashdown and Menzies Campbell in his cabinet, especially if Labour is elected by a decent majority.

Next May, therefore, the Lib Dems may be facing a choice for which most of them don't want to prepare. They should start thinking about it in its full dramatic regalia. Blair has an election by 50 seats. On Day One, he is riding high as the man who took Labour back to power. His supremacy is complete. He can do what ever he wants, consistent with the big picture as he has de-

vised it. After a campaign in which it is plain that Libs and Labs have fought on similar ground, he proclaims a mandate of 60 per cent not 40 per cent, and invites the participation of the partner that can do for 21st-century progressivism what Lloyd George and MacDonald, with a little help from Baldwin and Churchill, did for 20th-century Conservatism. He offers, of course, the promise of a modest change to the voting system, the Alternative Vote, which is less than the Lib Dems want but would give them quite a lot more seats, and would then be put to a referendum in which the Government campaigned for a Yes. He announces to the party and a grateful world that he has found the way to consign Conservatism to its proper place, which, as each election of the last 18 years has shown, is in the minority.

This is a dream that will horrify a lot of people in the Labour Party. It is heresy that cannot speak its name. It cannot be discussed in all its richness even in Labour's private enclaves, since privacy cannot be relied on. If it carries an idea so gratuitously revolutionary, so insulting to party as we know it, that it would gravely threaten the easy comradely 50-seat majority would otherwise, for the immediate future, ensure. But Blair is nothing if not a risk-taker in matters of party structure: and one who knows that

he will come to nothing, with a long-term strategy which will assuredly not enlist every sectarian in the tribe of which he is chief. Timid glimpses of this are to be found in parts of the Lib Dem mind-set at Brighton. It's now easier than it used to be for an MP like Menzies Campbell to talk openly about partnering Labour in a hung Parliament. Elected of the Tories enquires the party of the centre, and routine derision of Mr Blair is noticeable by its scarcity. There's quite a lot of chat about whether or not Liberal Democracy really is different from Social Democracy or whatever it's called today. A half-articulated awareness seems to be dawning that Labour will present a challenge to the Lib Dems' raison d'être, and the party is solid for waving its defiant fist against being patronised or swallowed up.

But that will not be the question. If Blair were to take the risk with his own party, he knows very well that Ashdown would insist on a partnership between sovereign, separate entities: an alliance of unequals, yes, but pluralist politics taken into majority government - a Lib Dem dream come true, another culture-shock for old Labour politicians.

Naturally, there's no certainty that Blair will make such an offer. It's a large stride from musing to acting. But the musing is close to the heart of

what he thinks he is about, which takes a more elevated view of what "the nation" really wants than has been heard from his predecessors. This may be innocuous. But if so, it adds weight to the supposition that, if any of this happens, it will be quickly: whether in the aftermath of a hung result or the euphoria of total victory.

Paddy Ashdown knows all of this and more. He has to deny the Alex Carlisle proposals of parties that ultimately merge. This isn't wilful blindness, just elementary politics. Until you see the result, you have to shake that fist. Until you can talk priorities in the Blair project, you don't lie down and wait for it to roll over. Ashdown's party has a distinctive psyche and a separate pride, and some of its members will run away from any impurist proposition. They never stop talking about their undeniable ascendancy in local government. The irony escapes them that this occurred in the era when local government has been abolished. Some people are satisfied by such Pyrrhic victories. But the Blair possibility of something better imposes obligations. The trick their leaders has to work is to let them contemplate the grand idea in positive mode, while at the same time not surrendering their identity. Sensibly put, and suitably conditioned, the offer, if it comes, is one that the Lib Dems cannot afford to refuse. In most of the country, a vote for the Liberals will indeed be a vote for Labour, just like the Tories say it is. Not for the Labour Party but for the Labour project. In most of the country, that means will no longer be a vote-loser. Blair, paradoxically, is the reason why the Lib Dems are expected to win 30 seats and are reasonable bets in another 10. This is a fact they need to ponder, as they confront their painful opportunity.

# Dangerous liaisons of the stars



Francine Stock

THAT Joan Bakewell and Harold Pinter were another Englishwoman, Carrington, who also succeeded in creating a great love instead of great art. But some presume to do both. Amongst the other Bloomsburys were Vanessa Bell and Duncan Grant. Even in the boozed and battled of Lillian Hellman and Dashiell Hammett, there was, sporadically, creation. The paintings by Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo often depict shocking scenes from their domestic drama. Domestic conflict as well as harmony can be helpful to the artist. Feminism has concluded that in famous heterosexual partnerships the women come off worse. Yve Simone de Beauvoir, a grand-mère of the movement, never renounced her relationship with Jean-Paul Sartre. She might have been a greater artist without it, but his frustrations and misery were nonetheless spun to ironic flirtation that famous faces employ with one another, even if no further congress is in mind. On meeting, they do not so much talk as trade lines. Imagine Burton and Taylor circling one another on the set of Cleopatra: no screenplay could do it just. A famous liaison reinforces the celebrity ego if it is public, or becomes dangerously exciting and precious if it must be kept secret.

But dangerous it always is. Whilst another famous person may be sympathetic to the pressures of fame, those pressures multiply once the two of them become a couple. You may start by finding the one person who understands that you can only be shot from the left, but his obsession with his (non-existent) double chin soon begins to grate. The insecurity that travels with many people who seek fame will be tolerated least by someone who shares it. How can the System be against you when it has just rewarded me? Very few celebrity pairings survive - just the Newman-Woodswards - except where the career of one is cut down as fuel for the other. Or that, at least, has been the 20th-century conclusion - that love and individual fulfillment are at odds. Cyril Connolly's observation that there was no more sombre enemy of good art than the pram in the hall, passed through the feminist perspective into Germaine Greer's analysis of female painters in *The Obstacle Race*. Time and time again, Harold Pinter's Betrayal always felt like a true romance. The trouble was, the commentators had mostly got the wrong woman, attributing the character of Emma to Lady Antonia Fraser, now Pinter's wife, when it should have been Joan Bakewell. You might say this has been the perfect celebrity union - conducted with discretion at the time and proving very fruitful in artistic terms over the following decades. Mr Pinter wrote a powerful play, *Ms Bakewell*, who has made some considerable study of moral issues, has spoken in the past about the moral dilemma of her own adultery, without naming names. Lady Antonia apparently based much of her heroine Jimena Shore on Ms Bakewell. And Michael Billington, Mr Pinter's biographer, has now got the full version that ties up all the loose ends and will sell copies of his book when it appears shortly. After a long pause, a happy ending.

# As Kenneth Clarke shrugs off the slings and arrows of the Tory Eurosceptics around him, Michael White foresees a scenario in which the Bruiser really could become the boss

## He's king of the castle

OBSERVERS of the social scene would do well to start paying less attention to the Glorious 12th of August - when upper-class guns are again unleashed upon the bird kingdom - and more to the Glorious 12th of September, when our masters turn upon each other. More precisely on Ken Clarke.

There is no time to lose in the modern Conservative Party. The holidays are over and the party conference is less than a month away. If the policy is to be changed or, better still, the leadership, now is the moment to stir the emotions of the activists who head for the seaside. For three years after the débâcle - September 16, 1992 - over Britain's exit from the European exchange rate mechanism (ERM), the target of the Tory Eurosceptics and their Fleet St patrons was John Major himself, with Douglas Hurd as the sub-plot.

When Major turned on his tormentors in July 1988, but sacrificed Hurd in the process, his chancellor became the scapegoat. Occasionally Clarke protests. He did so after Sunday's Telegraph revealed on page one, courtesy of a new French book on the ERM, that the traitor chancellor had personally intervened to "save" the ailing system when it was finally on the point of collapse in 1983. The claim is flatteringly true: it had been examined last year in Philip Stephens's *Politics Of The Pound*. But never mind. The Glorious 12th has been unexpectedly lively this year. Assorted Tory "grandees" led by Hurd and Ted Heath have had the temerity to shoot back at their tormentors. Feathers fly.

It is an astonishing spectacle, more dangerous than Labour's gratuitous feuding, because the Tories are in greater peril and have a policy most rational beings on both sides of the argument should settle for. It is that they should all wait and see what comes of the Franco-German drive to create a single European currency, starting (slowly) in 1999



and - if it both materialises and succeeds - whether it suits Britain to join, right away (as Clarke provocatively hinted this week) or later, as both Blair and Major would probably prefer. As to the substance of the matter, there are good arguments on both sides of the single-currency debate. Speaking personally, as one who voted Yes to Europe in 1975, I doubt both the wisdom

and the efficacy of the Bonn-Paris push towards economic and political union. I do not think they have the political mandate or the money to make the project stick. Other than Clarke and the word was that the boss was too deep in meditation to be disturbed: this was such a reasonable explanation that nobody smelt a rat - or would have had the head sense to mention it if they had: they knew what discretion was in 17th-century Tibet.

Most of the 20th-century dictators who died in their beds as opposed to their bunkers did so after a long twilight of comatose degeneration. Mao Zedong was clearly ga-ga for at least two years before his death, and General Franco and Tito

both lingered so long, sustained by doctors too terrified to let them die, that they almost became objects of pity. The death of a dictator, of course, tends to unleash change - in Tito's case tragic change, in Mao and Franco's cases, much for the better. For those whose status rests on the emperor's seal, the weakness of the great one, around whom the sharks of the succession swim, is naturally to be concealed. Democracies are supposed to be able to cope with the passage of the man at the top, but when Churchill suffered a major stroke in June 1953, he struggled in to chair a cabinet meeting the following day and, alarmingly, none of his colleagues noticed that his mouth was dragging and he'd lost the use of one arm. He was determined not to resign and set himself the test of

addressing the party conference in October. He kept the date and hung on till the following year. Woodrow Wilson's second term was a deception not unlike Boris Yeltsin's. Wilson was too ill to campaign effectively, and his presidency was largely run by his wife. Ronald Reagan's second term was enlivened by bowel cancer and the beginnings of Alzheimer's, and President Mitterrand's success at concealing his own cancer for eight years was only matched by his brilliance at choreographing his death as the ultimate political event. Georges Pompidou's deception was altogether diller, though he's the only one of the bunch who is reported to have made a joke about it: he told Henry Kissinger that every time anyone shook his hand, he felt they were trying to take his pulse.

# Do not disturb the leader

Boris Yeltsin is not the first man at the top to conceal his condition. Isabel Hilton takes the pulse of some historic deceivers

THERE has been a lot of miffing at the news that Boris Yeltsin is unfit to perform his duties - and that he's been less than truthful about his state of health. The Russian voters were not told that their favourite candidate had a heart attack in the middle of the presidential election campaign. This should surprise nobody, and certainly nobody with a sense of history. Concealing the leader's incapacity is a long and honourable tradition. It's easy to sneer at the Rus-

sians, who certainly have an impressive record in this regard, beginning with Lenin, who struggled on for nearly a year after suffering no fewer than three strokes. Leonid Brezhnev was heavily dosed on tranquilisers and sleeping pills for a decade before he died, and managed to rule the USSR for six years after being pronounced clinically dead (in 1976).

The arrangement seemed to suit everybody fine, but the Russians didn't invent this practice, nor do they

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Dorothy Lamour

# With a smile and a sarong

Lamour is an actress and she gets rich herself. To let the director do his worst. She lives on islands and she sings a song. And gets pneumonia in an old sarong.

**T**HIS chorus of Swinging On A Star was sung in *Duffy's Taverna* (1945) by Dorothy Lamour, who has died aged 81, cheerfully taking herself out. But no matter how much she shed to slip out of the sarong into something less comfortable, the studio publicists made sure that if blonde Betty Grable was perceived as the girl most likely to get back home to her husband, Dorothy Lamour was the girl who dreamed of meeting on a South Pacific island during the second world war.

Lamour began her screen career in a sarong in *The Jungle Princess* (1936), playing a child of nature who falls for Ray Milland, a handsome Westerner. "Me Chris. You Ulah," he tells her. "Keest," she replies, unable to pronounce his name, "what is keest?" Her *Jungle Love* (1938) had virtually the

identical cast and plot, with the added attraction of Technicolor and a volcano.

In John Ford's *faux naïf* melodrama, *The Hurricane* (1937), Lamour and Jon Hall are a happily married couple living on a Polynesian island whose idyll is threatened by wicked Europeans and a typhoon. She appeared in a similar South Sea costume and role in *Typhoon* (1940), *Aloma of the South Seas* (1941) and *Beyond the Blue Horizon* (1942), hardly ever leaving the Paramount backlot — for all of which she was made an honorary Hawaiian princess named Ke Aloha Lanai, meaning "heavenly dove".

Nevertheless, although a sarong clung to Dorothy Lamour's image as tightly as it clung to her curvaceous figure, she had both a larger range and a larger wardrobe than is generally credited.

For example, she was clad in furs in *Spain of the North* (1938), an adventure set in Alaska; she wore slinky gowns as a nightclub singer in *The Fleet's In* (1942), and spangled tights in the circus dramas, *Chad Hanna* (1940) and *The Greatest Show on Earth* (1952). She will also be

remembered as the voluptuous bone of contention between Bob Hope and Bing Crosby in six "Road to" movies.

Curiously, her seductive name came about more by accident than design. For some reason, most reference books state that she was born Dorothy Kaumeyer, which was the real name of her first husband, bandleader Herbie Kaye. But she was actually born Mary Leta Dorothy Slaton, the daughter of John Slaton, a waiter in New Orleans. When her mother divorced her father and married Clarence Lamour, she became Dorothy Lamour. However, on a billboard announcing her first appearance with the Herbie Kaye Orchestra, the "b" was accidentally left out of her name. It looked good and it stuck.

Her mother had always had a secret desire to be in show business and when pregnant with Dorothy would say, "If this baby is a girl, I'd dearly love her to be a great singer and actress." Years later, Lamour agreed that, "Yes, I became an actress and singer, but great? Of that I was never sure." Even Dorothy's most ardent fans knew her limita-

tions. Lamour, whom Bob Hope called "a beautiful chantootie with a sultry voice" sang rather languidly in a pleasantly deep manner — in contrast to some of the more frenetic female vocalists of the forties, such as Betty Hutton.

And apart from her tropical island epics, where she had to play an innocent native girl who learns the ways of European men, her screen character was alluring, witty and good natured, a perfect travelling companion for Bob and Bing. According to Hope, "Dottie was fearless. She stands there before the camera and ad libs with Crosby and me, fully knowing the way the script's written. She'll come up second or third best."

Prior to becoming Miss South Seas of the Screen, Lamour was Miss New Orleans of 1931, and then a singer with the Herbie Kaye Orchestra. Kaye, whom Dorothy married in 1935 and divorced in 1938, was one of the country's most popular bandleaders, with a Sunday night radio programme called *The Yeast Foamers*. Dorothy soon branched out on her own, singing in nightclubs and on a radio programme called *The Dreamer of Songs*, before Paramount Pictures offered her a seven-year contract.

The studio was told to "show as much of Lamour as the censors will permit — with or without the sarong." This was demonstrated in *Road to Zanzibar* (1941), in which she takes a bath in the nude wearing a flesh-coloured bathing suit. Although *Road to Utopia* (1946) was set in Alaska, Bob Hope sees her in a sarong walking through the snowy wastes in a hallucination brought on by the cold.

Her exotic looks — full lips and long, dark tresses — often got her cast as real or false foreigners: Carmelita Castillo in *The Last Train from Madrid* (1937); Lolita Sierra in *A Hotel for Benny* (1944); as a Brooklyn-born entertainer stranded in Rangoon and posing as a Spanish singer in *Moon over Burma* (1940) and as an Irish girl who passes herself off as a French star in *Slightly French* (1948), in which she even attempted the can-can in the Glasgow Empire where, in exchange for the secret of the kilt, she revealed (not lit-



Lamour smoulders in *The Hurricane*: 'Show as much of her as the censors will permit — with or without the sarong'.

ter the favourite South Sea heroine of the armed forces. Lamour found her popularity declining, as did the quality of her pictures. Fortunately, in 1950 she was invited to appear at the London Palladium, where she scored a hit singing a wide variety of songs, only appearing in a sarong at the finale.

She was also a success at the Glasgow Empire where, in exchange for the secret of the kilt, she revealed (not lit-

erally that she wore bikini panties under the sarong. Married to a professional soldier, William Ross Howard III since 1943, with whom she had two sons, Lamour continued to work on stage into the 1970s, notably touring with *Hello Dolly!*. Having retired from films in 1952 after *Road to Bali*, she returned 10 years later in the misguided, made-in-England *Road to Hong Kong*. Although the 48-year-old Lamour, who

had kept her looks and figure, was ungalantly replaced by Joan Collins, she put the younger star to shame in a cameo role.

She also appeared in John Ford's invigorating *Donovan's Reef* (1963), which paid homage to her enduring South Sea persona. She performed frequently on television in later years, especially in Bob Hope specials, and in the 1980s toured the US in a one-woman show. In

1984, she even went on a holiday cruise to the South Pacific, the only occasion on which she saw the island charms that she had helped to make so famous.

She is survived by her sons and two grandchildren. Her husband died in 1978.

### Ronald Bergan

Dorothy Lamour, film actress; born December 10, 1914; died September 22, 1996

## On the road with Bob and Bing

**I MADE 60** motion pictures and only wore the sarong in about six, but it did become a kind of trademark. And it did hinder me. They expect you to always be the young girl leaning against the palm tree. Why should you want to act?

**[WORKING with Bob Hope and Bing Crosby]** I felt like a wonderful sandwich, a slice of white bread between two slices of ham.

**IT'S a picnic working with Bob — and Bing, too. I never know what's going to happen next. They'd rather tease me than eat, and anything goes. Once I decided to top one of their gags. It was kind of dirty, but I let fly. They nearly sank through the floor. They've been pretty good since.**

**AT MY age you can't lean against a palm tree and sing *Moon over Burma*. People would look at that and say, 'What is she trying**



Lamour with Hope and Crosby in *Road to Utopia*

to do?" — Lamour on playing a sloppy housewife and murder victim in *Creepsfoot 2* (1967).

**WHEN I sing *Nightlight* Becomes You or *Tangerine* or *Personality*, I can look in the audience and see smiles on people's faces. That's the great thing about show business. There is a big, big need for citizen audience. They are so happy to remember the good times.**

**I WAS the happiest and highest-paid straight woman in the business.**

**SHOW business associates can be very cruel. It was suddenly difficult for me to reach certain Hollywood people by phone — the same people for whom I had done favours when I was box office magic.**

**I THANK God for that little strip of cloth.**

in the late 1940s, no longer

successfully to be a sympathetic German in *La Traviata*, a preening Toreador, a suave Silvio (*Pagliacci*) and an ebullient Marcello (*La Bohème*).

As the years went by he shaded over into parts where characterisation was as important as mere singing. He was absolutely at home as the wily, eponymous anti-hero of Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* and was suitably pompous as Prison Governor Frank in Johann Strauss's *Die Fledermaus* and Baron Zeta in *The Merry Widow*, in which his mobile features were used to unerring effect.

Years of experience had made him well aware of the absolute priority to be given to clear diction and the use of the facial muscles to project character in large spaces.

Dowling was a New Zealander by birth, born at Otago, where he studied at Maniototo County School in readiness to become a farmer. But, at the age of 26, after some singing experience in New Zealand, he entered the famous Sun Aria

singing competition in Melbourne — and won it. He left the farmhouse door behind and headed for London, where he entered the Royal College of Music, working with the noted teacher Dawson Freer. In 1938, he was ready for a career and was engaged by Sadler's Wells, which first cast him as Farnal, the *nouveau riche* father of Sophie in *Der Rosenkavalier*, singing with Joan Cross as the Marschallin. When the second world war broke out he served with distinction in the Royal Artillery, taking part in the Normandy landings.

His first postwar engagements were with the fledgling English Opera Group, taking part in early performances of Britten's *The Rape of Lucretia*, as Junius, and in *Albert Herring*, as Sid. In 1948 he was re-engaged by Sadler's Wells and stayed with the company for the remainder of his career. In later years he created the role of Coqnot in Gordon Crosse's *The Story of*

## Birthdays

Svetlana Beriosova, former ballerina, 64; Elizabeth Blackadder, painter, 55; Eavan Boland, poet, 52; Sir Mervyn Brown, historian of Africa, 73; Prof Geoffrey Burbidge, astronomer, 71; Prof Terence Burlin, former director, University of Westminster, 65; Sir Seymour Egerton, banker, 81; Brian Glanville, author and sports journalist, 66; Vice-Admiral Sir Alan Grove, 59; Prof Richard Hogart, writer, educationalist, 78; Catherine Hughes, former principal, Somerville College, Oxford, 63; Robert Jackson, MP, former Conservative minister, 50; John Kasmin, art dealer, 62; Sir David Lane, former chairman, Commission for Racial Equality, 74; Robert Lang, actor and director, 63; Linda McCartney, photographer, 55; Prof George McNicol, former principal, Aberdeen University, 67; Gerry Marsden, rock singer, 64; Prof Bernard Nevill, textile designer, 83; Anthony Newley, actor and composer, 65; Richard Northcott, film producer, 39; John Rutter, composer and conductor, 51; Richard Spring, Conservative MP, 50; Lawrence Urquhart, chairman, English China Clays, 61.

## Birthdays

Denise Dowling, baritone, born June 24, 1910; died September 23, 1996

**SOURDOGS**, Martin, suddenly on 19th September 1996. The funeral service will be held in St James Church, Oxford Circus on Wednesday 25th September at 11.00. Flowers by donation to PDSA may be sent to Revue & Pals, 258 Abingdon Road, Oxford. Those who wish to know how to help.

**CHAMBERLAIN**, Peter, Vice President of British and Irish Community Councils, on September 23rd 1996. He was born in London on 19th January 1924, and was educated at St Paul's School, London. He was married to Mrs. Chamberlain and had two children, Peter and Andrew and a brother, Bruce and a sister, Wendy and Rachel, and was a member of the Royal Society and the Royal Society of Medicine. He was a member of the Council of the British and Irish Community Councils and the British and Irish Community Councils. He was a member of the Council of the British and Irish Community Councils and the British and Irish Community Councils.

**HYDE**, Douglas, Douglas, died suddenly on 23rd September 1996. He was born in London on 15th December 1924. He was married to Mrs. Douglas and had two children, Peter and Andrew. He was a member of the Council of the British and Irish Community Councils and the British and Irish Community Councils. He was a member of the Council of the British and Irish Community Councils and the British and Irish Community Councils.

**RECORDED**, members on Saturday 14th September at home. Dearly loved mother of Elizabeth E. Rosemary.

**WILLIAMS**, Alan, Congratulations to your family on the birth of your new baby, I love you Harry. Please contact your announcement telephone 0171 713 4267. Fax 0171 713 4128.



Dowling as Papageno with Iris Kells as Papagena in a 1955 production of *The Magic Flute*

## Denis Dowling

# From farmyard to Figaro

**DENIS DOWLING**, who has died aged 86, made his career with Sadler's Wells, then English National Opera. He was a company stalwart of a kind that hardly exists today.

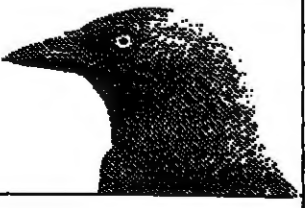
He served ENO well for some 37 years from 1948 in a wide variety of roles, although he was obviously happiest in those that employed his native wit.

In the early years he was a delightfully artless Papageno in *The Magic Flute* and a quicksilver Figaro in *The Marriage of Figaro*. These roles also evinced his gifts as a Mozartian — rounded tone, smooth line, excellent diction.

He was also appreciated in the lighter roles of the *bel canto* repertory, notably as Malatesta in Donizetti's *Don Pasquale*, Dandini in Rossini's *Cinderella* and Raimondo in his *Count Ory*. Later, he was a pastmaster of the patter called for by Bartolo in *The Barber of Seville*.

Although his medium-sized voice could be overstretched by heavier parts, he managed

## Jackdaw



## Blessed union

- 1) DON'T let worry kill you. Let the Church help.
- 2) Thursday night — potluck supper. Prayer and meditation to follow.
- 3) Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our Church and community.
- 4) For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- 5) The rosette on the altar this morning is to announce the birth of the David Alan Belzer, the son of the Rev and Mrs Julius Belzer.
- 6) This afternoon there will be a meeting in the south and north ends of the church. Children will be baptized at both ends.

7) Tuesday at 4pm there will be an ice-cream social. All ladies giving milk will please come early.

8) Wednesday, the Ladies' Liturgy Society will meet. Mrs Jones will sing Put Me In My Little Bed, accompanied by the pastor.

9) Thursday at 5pm there will be a meeting of the Little Mothers' Club. All wishing to become Little Mothers, please see the minister in his private study.

10) This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.

on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

11) At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What is Hell? Come early and listen to our choir practice. 15 actual announcements taken from US church bulletins. Taken from the *anarchy* list-server. Thanks to Michael Jovic.

## Hot gossip

RECENT studies in Britain and abroad show gossip is not merely entertaining, it's an essential part of nearly all human behaviour. It's good for us, psychologists claim. And without it, some say, we'd all suffer from a sense of isolation. "Asking why people like to gossip is like asking why people love to breathe," says gossip expert Dr Nick Emler of the Department of Experimental Psychology at Oxford University. "Exchanging information and opinions is essential for our social survival. You can function more effectively in any community if you are armed with information about who gets on with whom and what people's personal-

ities, strengths, weaknesses, talents and virtues are. Ignorance makes life dangerous."

Dr Emler argues that "Men gossip just as much but they disguise it by calling it something different — like 'talking politics.' And they call what women do 'gossip' to discourage women from doing exactly the same thing by making them feel they're being superficial, trivial, malicious and destructive. It's very cunning."

## Seed of change

IDONATE sperm as part of my revolutionary scheme. Before the country turns into a place full of pretentious middle-class wankers I'm trying to upset the scales. There's a great body of opinion that says class is a genetic thing, so I'm trying to put some of my working-class genes into our so-called classless society. "Donor clinics are very hypocritical. They

pretend that what they're doing is for the good of society, when, in fact, it's only middle-class families that can afford to go through with it at nearly three and a half grand a shot, and it's mostly middle-class men who donate. It's just a money-making machine. But it amuses me to think of all those people who think they're getting opera from a nice middle-class family and it ends up coming from me."

## Burnt toast

THE present work describes our independent verification and experience with Strawberry Pop Tart-based combustion. Material: A toaster and some Strawberry Pop Tarts. A suitable location for the experiment was the author's driveway. And an appropriate means for extinguishing the SPTs would be needed, a research assistant brought along some baking soda for the purpose.

Experiment Preparation: In order to guarantee that the SPT would receive sufficient heat to begin combustion, the toaster was set to its highest setting and the lever was jammed in the "down" position using adhesive cellophane. An SPT was removed from the box and its protective packaging and carefully placed into the toaster. The toaster was plugged in. First, the toaster went through a normal toasting

cycle (approximately 60 seconds), which more than thoroughly cooked the SPT. By this point we could definitely detect a burnt SPT aroma. The toaster then attempted to eject the SPT, but was prevented from doing so by the adhesive cellophane. The toaster then began emitting loud rattling and buzzing noises due to its inability to eject the SPT. Soon thereafter, large amounts of smoke began pouring out of the toaster. Approximately 40 seconds later, small flames began licking their way out of the toaster, steadily grew larger and until reaching a maximum height of about 18 inches above the top of the toaster. As the flames were reaching their maximum height, the toaster abruptly stopped making buzzing noises. We speculate that the flames had by this point scorched the electronics within the toaster. The researchers also realised that the heat could inadvertently melt the adhesive cellophane and cause the flaming SPTs to suddenly eject from the toaster. Unfortunately, this did not occur. The flames continued for several minutes. We then enlisted the

help of a reluctant research assistant to sprinkle baking soda on the flames.

In summary: Overcooking the SPT did produce a good size flame. The effect was not as pronounced as the researchers had hoped, but was satisfying nonetheless. We believe that frosted SPTs may successfully produce even larger torches. We did decide to repeat the experiment with the remaining five SPTs, but could not do so because there were no more suitable toasters available. In the future, we recommend that toasters be sold in six-packs to accommodate important SPT research.

It is nice to know that humanity continues in its quest for scientific knowledge. The Strawberry Pop Tart Combustion experiment is at homepage.midsusa.net/~hobby/jackdaw.html

Jackdaw wants jewels. E-mail jackdaw@guardian.co.uk; fax 0171-713 4366; Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER.

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Marie Claire... revolution

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# Finance Guardian



## BA deal escapes monopoly inquiry

### Airline will be required to open up 'stranglehold' on Heathrow

Keith Harper  
Transport Editor

MINISTERS are preparing to give the controversial proposed alliance between British Airways and American Airlines a considerable lift by deciding not to refer it to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

But BA will be expected to return to relinquish its stranglehold on access to Heathrow airport, opening up slots for American airlines — which have been sharply critical of the proposed alliance — and paving the way for an "open skies" agreement with the US government.

A decision by Trade and Industry Secretary Ian Lang to approve the deal is expected as early as next week, following an exhaustive examination of the plan by the Office of Fair Trading.

The OFT was last night putting the final touches to its report which, although critical about the threat the alliance poses to other competitors, suggests extensive safeguards.

Whitehall sources made it clear last night that the OFT stipulations would be powerful enough to make a reference to the MMC unnecessary.

The OFT has tackled head-on the question of providing extra slots at Heathrow, for which other American carriers have been clamouring. The report is expected to say that BA must give up some slots if the merger is to go ahead. This is a move which is bound to appeal to the US government, currently deadlocked with Britain about greater access to Heathrow.

To protect the interests of other airlines, the OFT will tell Mr Lang that tight regulations will have to be introduced to prevent BA and American Airlines, as dominant partners on the North Atlantic routes, from acting in an anti-competitive manner. Any fare reductions which threatened the business of another carrier would be stopped immediately.

These safeguards are likely to be enough to sway ministers, particularly Mr Lang. The Trade and Industry Secretary has the final decision on whether the issue should be referred to the MMC, but the critical examination by the OFT has been designed to make the reference irrelevant.

Other pressures have also been brought to bear on the Government to bypass the MMC. The merger timetable has been slipping away fast.

The Americans have started to get restless about what they assumed would be a relatively quick decision. Ministers now realise that an MMC reference could hold up the deal, perhaps fatally, and that there would be no decision until the end of the year.

Bob Crandall, American Airlines' chairman, told ministers last week that the company could not hold on indefinitely for puffs of white smoke to emerge from Whitehall. This is why the Cabinet now appears to want to hasten the process.

The "open skies" talks will not be resumed until the Government has overcome this latest political hurdle. They should have been completed before the American presidential elections, and Mr Crandall has threatened to seek other partners if the deal is not wrapped up before the end of the year.

Its collapse could threaten more BA jobs. At present, the company is planning to shed 5,000 jobs over the next 18 months. BA sources yesterday stressed that its plan depended on the American Airline alliance being approved, and that staff numbers might have to be reduced further should the talks fail.



BA and American (top left) await the imminent approval of Trade Secretary Ian Lang (above). The deal will effectively merge their operations

### Notebook

## London's ready whether in or out



Mark Milner

THE usual strictures about avoiding complacency notwithstanding, London's banking community appears confident that the City will be able to maintain its role as Europe's premier financial centre even if Britain does not sign up for a single currency.

There has been talk of plots by various Euro-rivals to seize a competitive advantage if Britain does not sign up. One way would be to restrict the access to the settlement system which will link up the banking operations of countries in the system to banks of those countries. For all that, the City's EMU working group has a case to argue.

Its study published this morning concludes that it is also an effectively sounding board for wider opinion. London is up to speed on the changes that will be needed as far as wholesale financial markets are concerned. Keeping up the good work should ensure that the City is ready whether Britain is among the "ins" or the "outs".

It is worth noting, too, that London dominates foreign exchange trading in the European time zone — as well as leaving New York and Tokyo trailing — even though sterling is scarcely the world's top-traded currency.

The snag is that it is difficult to be sure just what London has to be ready for. Will currency union take place in 1997? Last weekend's Dublin conference appears to have shortened the odds that it will but talk of weaker criteria in order to achieve a membership with critical mass may yet provoke a German backlash.

Nor is it yet clear just who will sign up for monetary union, though it is likely that it is this group which will make the rules for the way the euro works. Such uncertainties will persist at least until the spring of 1998. It would be handy, for the City at least, if another uncertainty — Britain's place in EMU — was removed at the same time.

Outside factors

SET aside, for a moment, the outcome of both yesterday's deliberations in the City's Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, and Bank of England Governor, Edie George, and the Federal Reserve's open market committee meeting which starts today. Take a look instead at the mechanism of formulating interest rate policy making.

In the UK, it is Mr Clarke who makes the decision even if, as has happened, the decision goes against the advice of the governor. Hence, the inevitable suspicion that the

process of determining the cost of borrowing in Britain is not entirely divorced from such short-term political considerations, like winning an election, for example.

In the US, the system looks more impervious to political pressures. The factors US pundits are mulling over in trying to second guess the Fed's current thinking owe far more to economic fundamentals than they do to the proximity of the Presidential election.

Nonetheless, as President Clinton has already demonstrated, the White House is not averse, in an election year, to trying to influence Fed policy. It is interesting to speculate, too, how much more forceful White House arm-twisting might have been if Bob Dole were a more credible challenger.

Even the mighty Bundesbank, pillar of monetary rectitude, is inclined to listen, not perhaps so much to the politicians in Bonn, but to the opinions of those it knows are close to the workings of the German economy. The Bundesbank council may be a formidable defender of the institution's independence but it is also an effectively sounding board for wider opinion.

Such things matter. It is no doubt better for the public interest if monetary policy is not conducted in response to the demands of short-term political expediency. But policy conducted in some sort of economic vacuum, without either widespread public support for its goals or a reasonable degree of political accountability, would be equally dangerous.

It is to be hoped that if and when monetary union does happen, its architects take due note. Economic structures are part of society, not separate from it.

### Bulgarian scale

FOR the monetary policy makers in both the UK and the EU, the decisions of whether or not to raise interest rates fit into the category of fine tuning. In Bulgaria, however, they do things on a grander scale. Yesterday, the country's central bank did not so much raise interest rates as send them into orbit.

From this morning, the Bulgarian National Bank's main interest rate will be a staggering 300 per cent, up from a mere 108 per cent. The hike reflects the magnitude of Bulgaria's economic problems. At a time when many of the former communist states are seeing their economies stabilise and, in a number of cases, show robust improvement, Bulgaria is grappling with a plummeting currency (just wait until the winter energy bills start to roll in) and galloping inflation.

As one commentator noted yesterday, having survived the first post-communist shock, Bulgaria is in danger of being overwhelmed by a second.

The BNB's hard line comes just about a month ahead of the Bulgarian presidential election. In Sofia, at least, necessity seems the mother of independence.

## City presses for early decision on entry to EMU

### Panel suggests staying out of single currency is better than joining late

Samuel Hays

THE Government will come under pressure today to make an early decision on UK participation in the single currency.

City executives, fearful about the impact a delay would have on London's position as a leading financial centre, have warned all political parties that a last-minute commitment would seriously threaten London's ability to fight off competitors after 1999. The EMU City Working Group echoed the tough line taken at the weekend by Chancellor Kenneth Clarke.

He rejected a late British entry into the European single currency as "pathetic". The City panel, formed by the British Bankers' Association, the Association for Payment Clearing Services and

the London Investment Banking Association, argues: "A UK decision to participate delayed beyond early 1998, but with the changeover still due for completion by 2002, could be highly disruptive for all sectors of the economy and expose UK financial institutions to real competitive disadvantages."

It also warns that the UK would risk discriminatory action from competitors in the single currency if it opted out, with its fate riding on little more than "the general climate of relations between the UK and the rest of the EU".

A decision to opt out of a single currency completely would be preferable to a late commitment, the panel hints.

Tim Sweeney, HBA director general, said: "We do not believe there is anything inherent in any of the scenarios which would suggest that London's role as a major, global financial centre is under threat. There are threats and opportunities in all scenarios, but all of these can be contained and the City can respond, providing it is properly prepared."

Some markets within the

City would suffer more than others if the UK stayed out of EMU, the panel concludes. Bond and foreign exchange markets, fund management and insurance were relatively immune to EMU changes. Money markets, equities and, to a lesser extent, derivatives would stand to gain more from participation and lose more from non-participation.

The report says the City is less vulnerable to the impact of the UK not joining the single currency than individual financial institutions, provided there is adequate preparation, including legislation to safeguard contracts which are due to expire after 1999.

It says international markets are relatively immune to any adverse impact on the UK economy of non-participation. But organisations such as high street banks, which are more dependent on domestic prosperity, would suffer.

The London International Financial Futures and Options Exchange announced yesterday the launch of a one-month Eurodeutschmark (Eurodumark) interest rate contract on November 21 as part of its preparations for EMU.



Gerhard Schröder: Delay would be 'no great drama'

### Leading German Social Democrats warn over rush to monetary union

David Gow

TWO prominent German Social Democrats — veteran Bundesbank hawk, Reinhold Jochimsen, and Lower Saxony premier, Gerhard Schröder — yesterday warned against rushing into European monetary union.

They added an unusual Eurosceptical tone to the debate in Germany about abandoning the mark just hours after European Union finance ministers took significant steps towards meeting the January 1, 1999, deadline by agreeing a "stability pact" and a new-style but voluntary exchange rate mechanism for non-participant countries.

Mr Jochimsen, head of the Bundesbank in North-Rhine Westphalia, said a delay beyond the 1999 start-date would be "neither a question of war

and peace nor an economic catastrophe". Adding his voice to a growing German chorus demanding strict application of the Maastricht "convergence criteria" before the move to EMU, he did, however, concede that any delay in implementing monetary union should be only for a "precisely defined, clear period".

Mr Schröder, a possible challenger to Chancellor Helmut Kohl at the 1998 general election, said he was "very pessimistic" EMU would meet the planned schedule. He added that the SPD should not now commit itself to the planned 1999 start. It would, he said, be "no great drama" if monetary union was delayed, "so long as the process of European integration is not stopped".

At least five European Union governments will merge their currencies in January 1999, according to a survey of EU economists. Two-thirds of the economists polled by Bloomberg Business News said Germany, France, Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg will adopt the euro-currency in 1999.

## Two quit Chrysalis board after row over ending film activities

Lisa Buckingham

BOARDROOM split at Amedia group Chrysalis yesterday led to the resignation of two non-executive directors, including film producer Sir David Puttnam, whose credits include *Midnight Express*, *The Killing Fields* and *Chariots of Fire*.

Viscount Chandos is also quitting the board. Both men have decided to leave in protest at a lack of communication over the way in which the company decided to close its film business which has cost about £4 million.

Sir David, who has been an evangelist for the British film industry, is understood to have been put out at the lack of consultation over the closure.

Chris Wright, the chairman of Chrysalis — which will be left with just one non-executive director — said replacements would be announced as soon as possible.

The group has decided to make its remaining non-executive director, Charles

Levison, a deputy chairman alongside Mr Wright, the founder and executive chairman who also owns Queens Park Rangers football club and Wasps rugby club.

Mr Levison will, according to Chrysalis, assume "some additional management responsibilities" until a new group managing director can be appointed, which should be finalised before the annual meeting in February.

Chrysalis announced earlier this month that it was reorganising its film operations and would close its film production and international film sales arms. Tough trading conditions were blamed for the decision to pull out of the business.

John Allwood, the finance director of Mirror Group, has received a £280,000 windfall after exercising 250,000 share options in the group.

The move follows the disclosure last week that David Montgomery, the chief executive, had made £200,000 on the sale of share options.

## Bank clients feel called to phone

Nicholas Garnsworthy  
Technology Editor

ONE-third of bank customers will bank by phone by the year 2000, according to a new report on retail banking by Datamonitor, the consultancy.

The report says the number of regular users will triple to 10 million by the end of the century, with 125,000 people a month switching to telephone banking.

It defines regular users as people who use a dedicated telephone banking service for over 50 per cent of non-cash withdrawal transactions. Datamonitor also forecasts

that telephone banking calls would rise from 41.3 million a year in 1995 to 130 million a year by 2000, with 42 per cent of calls being handled automatically by computers.

The report on retail banking distribution says that bank staff handle 80 per cent of telephone banking calls. The maximum savings for banks will be achieved by automating telephone services — where customers get a recorded message offering options which are selected by pressing the appropriate key on their phone.

The report says cheap information technology and telecommunications, together with branch closures, have

encouraged banks to invest in telephone banking. "At the same time, increases in white-collar working hours have led to growing consumer demand as busy employees attempt to buy back leisure time by accessing their banking services quickly and at a time and place of their own choosing."

It forecasts that 30 per cent of bank account holders will soon be regular telephone banking customers, compared with just 10 per cent of customers today.

The number of bank branches fell from 11,075 to 10,601 last year, while staff employed came down from 289,000 to 290,500.



Kipper Williams

### News in brief

#### Lloyds TSB set on being No 1

Lloyds TSB says it wants to become the leading insurance provider in the UK, and would seek further acquisitions in the sector. The bank said its £1.7 billion purchase of the

37.8 per cent of Lloyds Abbey Life that it does not already own was expected to produce £50 million in annual cost savings within three years.

#### Young black-out

Peter Young, the fund manager sacked by Deutsche Morgan Grenfell for gross miscon-

duct, has won a permanent injunction against a woman named only as "Sandra", preventing her from publishing photographs of him. In a separate development, two lawyers from Swiss firm Wyler & Wolf who were board members of Luxembourg-based companies linked to Mr

Young confirmed they were assisting a company inquiry into potential irregularities.

#### Causeway acquired

Securities house ABN Amro Hoare Govett has bought Causeway Group, which manages development capital funds totalling £300 million.

## Last-minute price rise values AEA Technology at over £200m

Simon Sainsbury  
Industrial Editor

THE Government is hoping to push up the proceeds from its latest privatisation, the sale of AEA Technology, following news that it could increase the indicative price for shares and thus raise up to £224 million.

The move to tweak the pricing of the issue came last night on the eve of today's deadline for investors to sign up for shares in the company, which has been hived off from the former state-owned nuclear power research body, the UK Atomic Energy Authority.

A statement issued yesterday said the indicative pricing range could be raised from 240p-270p to 250p-280p. The new range would mean that the minimum price for the company was

The disposal follows this summer's sale of British Energy, the nuclear power company, which flopped embarrassingly. Intermediaries acting for AEA individual investors have until midday today to apply for shares on behalf of clients.

A supplementary prospectus will be published on Wednesday, spelling out the offer price and the basis of allocation.

AEA remains dependent for some 80 per cent of its business on the nuclear industry but has presented itself as high-technology science and engineering group. All nuclear liabilities previously attached to the group have been hived off into a separate group, UKAEA Government Division, which is remaining in state control, with clean-up costs totalling some £8 billion.

Yesterday, AEA's new chief executive, Peter Watson, was

TOURIST RATES — BANK SELLS			
Australia 1.90	France 7.75	Italy 2.322	Singapore 2.1575
Austria 16.00	Germany 2.2575	Japan 5.425	S. Africa 5.225
Belgium 47.05	Greece 364.75	Netherlands 2.5675	Spain 192.00
Canada 2.075	Hong Kong 11.72	New Zealand 2.1625	Sweden 10.11
Cyprus 0.70	India 55.51	Norway 8.875	Switzerland 1.26
Denmark 8.835	Ireland 0.945	Portugal 234.00	Turkey 135.048
Finland 6.90	Ireland 4.83	Saudi Arabia 5.80	USA 1.52

Supplied by Reuters Bank (excluding Indian rupee and Israeli shekel)

LARRY ELLIOTT examines the strength behind the arguments for putting up interest rates — and for cutting them

# City surrogates fight Clarke-v-George battle

## Optimist Price is right

WITH the election only seven months away, Kenneth Clarke gladly acknowledges that the economy is picking up steam, but he is reluctant to raise rates because:

- Inflation is low. According to the Retail Prices Index, the annual inflation rate has fallen from 2.9 per cent in January to 2.1 per cent in August. Excluding mortgage interest payments, it has remained steady at 2.8 per cent, but analysts expect it to fall within the Government's 1-2.5 per cent target range over the coming months.
- Inflationary pressure is weak. The price of goods leaving factories rose by 3 per cent in the year to August, compared with 3.6 per cent in January.
- The labour market is behaving differently from previous recoveries. Despite almost four years of decline in the number of people out of work and claiming benefit, average earnings have remained flat. They rose by only 3.75 per cent in the year to July, compared with a low point of 7.5 per cent in the whole of the 1980s.
- Economic recovery is patchy. As the Construction Industry Employers Council said in its budget submission yesterday, construction output has shrunk by 11 per cent since 1990 and is set to decline again in 1996. Manufacturing output in the three months to July was down on a year earlier.
- Britain's economy has been underperforming and has plenty of spare capacity. Gross domestic product rose by only 0.4 per cent in each of the past three quarters, leaving the annual rate of growth at just 1.7 per cent. The Treasury believes the economy has potential to grow by 2.5 per cent a year on average.
- Real (inflation-adjusted) interest rates are already high enough. Although base rates are historically low at 5.75 per cent, so is inflation at 2.1 per cent. The real interest rate of 3.65 per cent is the highest in the Group of Seven industrialised nations.

THE City was lining up in rival camps behind Kenneth Clarke and Eddie George yesterday as the Chancellor and the Governor met at the Treasury to renew their argument over the level of interest rates.

While most analysts believed that the discussions would result in the Chancellor deciding to leave the cost of borrowing unchanged at 5.75 per cent, there were calls both for an increase in rates and for further reductions.

Marian Bell, UK economist at Royal Bank

of Scotland, said: "I agree with the Governor. Base rates should not have been cut in June and the economy is now starting to grow strongly."

"I doubt whether the target of having underlying inflation (excluding mortgage interest payments) below 2.5 per cent by the end of this Parliament will be achieved. If the Government does want to achieve its inflation target rates ought to be higher."

But Gerard Lyons, chief economist at Japanese firm DKB, said: "I think there should be at least one more rate cut. The argument

that the economy is overheating is completely misplaced. The economy has been growing at a sluggish pace for several quarters and is only just starting to gather momentum. A rate rise would choke off the recovery before it has even got going."

Michael Saunders, at Salomon Brothers, believes there is no need for a change either way. "With real growth picking up, further base rate cuts are unnecessary," he said. "However, with lead inflation guides pointing down, there is no real need for an immediate rate hike."

## Pessimist Stock answer

EDDIE George is concerned that the Chancellor may be turning a blind eye to the risks of the economy overheating because dearer borrowing would be unwelcome in the run-up to polling day. The Governor wants interest rates to rise because:

- The economy's growth pause is over. GDP is expected to expand much more rapidly in the second half of 1996 than it did in the first half, and by well over 3 per cent in 1997. Much of the slowdown has been caused by firms meeting orders from stockpiles but this process is now over. Consumer spending, investment and stock building are likely to drive the economy rapidly forward.
- The Government is finding it hard to hit its inflation target. Underlying inflation has been outside the target range for more than 18 months, remaining at 2.8-2.9 per cent despite the slowdown in the economy.
- Britain is in the early stages of a consumer boom. Retail sales rose by 1 per cent in August, house prices are up by more than 5 per cent over the past year, borrowing from banks and building societies is up by almost 10 per cent on a year ago, spending on debit and credit cards was 27 per cent higher last month than a year earlier.
- Both of the normally used measures of the money supply are outside their monitoring ranges. Narrow money (M0) — mainly notes and coins in circulation — has been well above its 0-4 per cent range, while broad money growth (M4), which also includes bank and building society accounts, has been accelerating steadily. It currently stands at 9.4 per cent, above its 3-8 per cent monitoring range.
- Pay awards are starting to pick up in the private sector, and real disposable incomes are set to be boosted by windfall gains from the Halifax flotation next year, rebates from the privatised utilities and any tax cuts in the November Budget.

PHOTOMONTAGE LESLIE MCCARTHY

## FBI aids Fed leak inquiry

Mark Tran in New York

THE Federal Reserve has called in the FBI to investigate a highly embarrassing leak revealing that a near-majority of the US central bank's policy-making body is pushing for higher interest rates.

Brent Bowen, the Fed's inspector-general, has asked the FBI to help trace the leak, person responsible for the leak. Last Tuesday, a Reuters news report in Chicago quoted a "senior Fed official" as saying that eight of the Fed's 12 district banks were in favour of raising the federal funds rate — the rate for overnight bank loans — by a quarter-point to 5.50 per cent.

News of the leak inquiry coincided with a fresh bout of nervousness about an imminent tightening of monetary policy on Wall Street, where the Dow plunged more than 50 points in early trading last week.

The Fed's Open Market Committee, made up of seven governors of the Federal Reserve and the presidents of its 12 regional banks, meets today to consider monetary policy. The committee is said to be deeply divided on the need for tighter policy — a division mirrored in Wall Street.

Despite the long-running expansion, inflation remains tame, although there are signs of tightening labour markets and the beginnings of pressure on wages.

Minutes from FOMC meetings in July and August show that pressure is building on chairman Alan Greenspan to raise rates. In July, Gary Stern, of the Minneapolis Fed, cast a rare dissenting vote, opting for an increase.

In the news agency report, Minneapolis, Richmond and San Francisco banks are said to be pushing for a half-point rise in the discount rate, while five others favoured a quarter-point rise.

The report also said that a consensus was forming for a quarter-point increase in the more important federal funds rate. Inflation doves believe the economy is slowing in its own accord, making tighter monetary policy unnecessary.



## Inchcape on road to recovery — with some way to go

### OUTLOOK/Back-to-basics strategy is proving to be not that simple in practice. Pauline Springett reports

THE official story is that Inchcape is on the road to recovery. Its management has been revamped and an ambitious restructuring is well under way. The actual figures are looking somewhat wan, but the reorganisation dates only from last March so it would be unfair to expect the earth just yet.

As Sir Colin Marshall, Inchcape's chairman, said yesterday: "We are confident that the business as currently constituted, will show good recovery over the comparative period, leading to an increase in our headline profits before exceptional charges and tax for the full year."

But it is difficult to share Sir Colin's optimism unreservedly. True, the company has already started withdraw-

ing from non-performing operations, such as its Swiss motor franchises. But so far there has been no impact on Inchcape's bottom line.

The phenomenal rise in pre-tax profits was actually due to the absence of last year's extraordinary charge of nearly £55 million. Stripping out the exceptional reveals first-half profits of £22.8 million, almost unchanged from the 1995 figure of £23.3 million.

On the plus side, the company is apparently close to achieving two main prongs of the restructuring process — the sale of Inchcape Testing Services and the demerger of Bain Hogg. However, as so often with Inchcape, even these two moves are not proving straightforward.

The sale of the testing division for £280 million to a consortium led by the venture capital arm of Charterhouse Bank has been widely flagged. But, contrary to expectations, the sale was not announced as a done deal yesterday. Naturally, this prompted speculation that something might have gone wrong. Chief executive Philip Cushing found himself driven to assert: "It [the sale] will be completed in the fairly near future. There are no hitches."

Testing Services checks product quality and performance standards for importers and exporters. Although it is doing well — its operating profits rose by 37 per cent to £15.7 million — it is not a core business and the sale proceeds will help Inchcape to reduce its gearing.

The divestment of Bain Hogg, the company's insurance-broker subsidiary, has been more problematic. Originally, a flotation was mooted, but that was abandoned in favour of a trade sale. Several potential buyers put their hands up, but Inchcape decided that none was offering enough money. A demerger is now the favoured option, un-

### Inchcape

Stock market value £13.1m  
Share price 222.5p ↑ 10p  
Workforce 40,000  
Interest cover 4.9

	£	% change
Sales	2,161.2m	+1
Pre-tax profit	75.3m	+325
Earnings per share	7.3p	1995-loss
Dividend	5.25p	-30

Main activity: distribution group, imports, distributors and sales cars. Also soft drinks, consumer and industrial products and office equipment.

Operating profit £m 1995-96

Category	1995	1996
Motor distribution	15	18
Motor retail	10	12
Marketing	5	6
Boating	2	3
Business machines	1	1
Shipping	1	1

## Murdoch son's role prompts speculation

Lisa Buckingham

SPECULATION that Rupert Murdoch is grooming his elder son to take over the running of the News Corporation media empire intensified yesterday when it emerged that Lachlan Murdoch has been promoted to managing director of News Limited, the Australian operation.

The latest step up the News Corporation ladder for Lachlan — just 26 years old this month — comes less than a year after he was made deputy chief executive of the group's Australian subsidiary, and is another sign of his meteoric rise through the company in the two-and-a-half years since he graduated from Princeton University.

He joined News Limited in 1994 as general manager of Queensland Newspapers, although he had worked in various capacities, including for the UK newspapers, while still a student.

Lachlan moved to the centre of power in News Corporation last year when he became a member of a key committee that determines the strategic direction of the global media group.

Lachlan is, however, not the only one of Mr Murdoch's offspring to be employed in a senior position within the News Corporation group. Elisabeth, the eldest child of Mr Murdoch's current marriage, was earlier this year appointed as a senior manager at BSkyB, the British-based satellite broadcaster in which News Corporation owns 40 per cent of the shares.

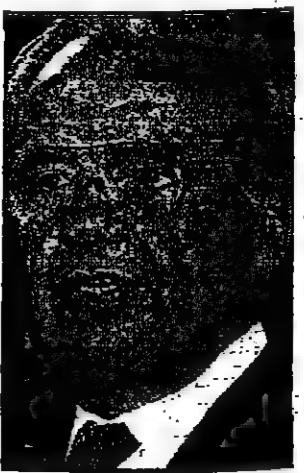
Mr Murdoch's youngest child, James, appeared initially reluctant, but now seems to accept the idea of a career in "the family firm" — regarded as such even though the Murdochs own only 31 per cent of the group's shares.

Ken Cowley, the News Limited chief executive, will be unaffected by the promotion of Lachlan Murdoch, to whom he is said to have been acting as something of a mentor.

Mr Cowley said that Murdoch Jr will concentrate on managing News Group operations and would continue to report to him. The chief executive said he would be "intimately involved" in shaping the group's strategic direction to cope with the challenges of technology and competition.

It is understood that Mr Murdoch's responsibilities will run wider than the Australian newspaper business, possibly involving News Corporation's joint ventures, the Ansett airline and Foxtel pay-TV service.

Mr Murdoch, who said his progress through News Limited had been made possible with the support of Mr Cowley and other executives, is expected to fill the role previously held by Bob Muscat, the chief operating officer who left recently to join rival John Fairfax Holdings.



Family fortunes... Their apparent Lachlan Murdoch

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Phone and online offers available to UK and Ireland. 1996 comparison. Some BT offers are for international calls only. Some offers are for UK calls only. Some offers are for UK calls only. Some offers are for UK calls only.

## Gold traders gamble on IMF vote

### Sellers see poverty relief plan as bonanza, says Dan Atkinson

COLOSSAL bets in world gold markets are riding on approval this week of a plan to sell 150 tonnes of bullion, held by the International Monetary Fund, in order to help some of the world's poorest countries.

So-called "short" positions were near record levels over the weekend as millions of dollars were gambled on a Yes vote from the IMF's leading members.

Should Germany, Italy and Switzerland — three prominent objectors — block the plan, speculators who have

obtaining better prices now than after the IMF decision.

Such a move would contradict Dutch practice of maintaining a similar proportion of gold to total reserves as Germany's 30 per cent.

Another suggestion, guaranteed to strike panic into anyone running a short gold position, was that Japan — largely uncommitted one way or another — was coming round to the German position and would vote against the sale.

Ranged against Germany is a group led by the United States, which insists that some gold be sold before it makes its national contribution to the poorer countries. Bullion prices have been

weak ahead of the vote; gold closed in London on Friday at \$381.5 a troy ounce, perilously close to the key level of \$380. Earlier this year it had been as high as \$415.

The plan before the IMF would involve selling 30 tonnes a year for the next five years, investing the proceeds and using the interest to assist chronic debtor nations.

Annual sales of 30 tonnes ought to have little impact on the overall shortfall of gold supply against demand, of between 300 and 500 tonnes, and represent only 0.08 per cent of the 34,400 tonnes held by central banks and international organisations such as the IMF and European Monetary Institute.

Wales  
loose w  
David Plummer  
American Football  
lanthers  
shkalan  
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مکان التعمیر

and for cutting them... ge battle... FBI aids Fed leak inquiry

Wales play fast and loose with Voyle

David Plummer finds friction as a Llanelli lock is elevated against France tomorrow

MIKE VOYLE was selected to play for Llanelli against Swansea last Saturday even though chosen to make his first full appearance for Wales four days later...



Transferred by coach... Mike Voyle is ready to swap the scarlet jersey of Stradey for the red of Wales

Rugby League

Powell first into battle

DARYL POWELL will captain Great Britain in the opening game of their Oceania tour against a Papua New Guinea President's XIII at Mount Hagen tomorrow.

The 31-year-old Keighley player-coach is the only player in the 17-strong squad who has previously played in PNG, and steps in as captain because Tony Smith at half-back with the Hastings-born Farrell, his vice-captain Denis Betts and the rest of his big guns for the Test against the Kumulis in Lae on Saturday.

Steve Prescott of St Helens will be at full-back, which makes Bradford's Stuart Spruce favourite to play there in the Test, a surprise after Prescott's impressive performances for England in this summer's European Championship.

Mount Hagen is in the Highlands at an altitude of more than 5,000 feet, and Great Britain will make the one-hour flight there on the morning of the match, leaving the only a few hours to acclimatise.

American Football Panthers provide cutting edge

Mark Tran in New York

IT WAS a day of upsets as three of the league's star teams slumped to defeats. The Dallas Cowboys, off to their worst start since 1990, lost to the Buffalo Bills; the Green Bay Packers, who had looked unstoppable for three games, fell to the Minnesota Vikings; and the San Francisco 49ers were surprised by the Carolina Panthers.

pan as they inflicted a 23-7 defeat on their rivals in the NFC West. They did it, moreover, without their starting quarterback Kerry Collins, who sprained his left knee. The veteran Steve Buerlein stepped into the breach and played a superb first half to guide his team into a 17-0 lead in their new Ericsson Stadium in Charlotte.

"We are not big on deception; we just want to line up and beat you," said Buerlein, whose first drive of the game 90 yards, nine plays - led to a touchdown. He also produced two pin-point passes over the middle, both caught by the tight end Wesley Walls, a former 49er.

The Cowboys, still without their star receiver Michael Irvin, were beaten 10-7 by the Bills, who had Todd Collins - deputising for the injured Jim Kelly - as starting quarterback for only the second time in his NFL career.

Ice Hockey Injuries force Lawless's hand

Vic Batchelder

IT'S not getting any easier. The Manchester Storm coach John Lawless is in a bit of a bind as he looks to recover from a 4-1 down to draw 5-5.

day's 6-1 defeat at Sheffield and the following day Stephen Cooper aggravated a groin strain as Bracknell's Peter Romeo scored Bees' fifth goal of a tense Superleague game in Manchester. Bracknell recovered from 4-1 down to draw 5-5.

guys that are fit will play with a lot of pride." Attendances totalled 28,076 over the opening weekend of Britain's new professional Superleague, an average of more than 4,000 for each of the seven games.

Racing Ashkalani may break Aga's duck

Chris Hawkins

THE Aga Khan still awaits his first success since returning to British racing at the beginning of this season, but the French-trained Ashkalani could do the trick in Saturday's Queen Elizabeth II Stakes at Ascot.

by a supremely confident Frankie Dettori, he shot through the field on the rails to win the Celebration Mile at Goodwood very easily.

Bosra Sham has not run since winning the 1,000 Guineas. That now looks only a moderate Classic, but Henry Cecil has always believed this filly to be exceptional and is pleased with the way she has come back after a persistent foot problem.

Nine were declared at yesterday's forfeit stage. Soviet Line, First Island and Charwood Forest represent the older generation, while Bijou d'Inde, Matiya and Shake The Yoke make up a fascinating field.

Nottingham runners and riders with form guide

Table with columns for race numbers, names, and form guides for various horse races.

Epsom card

Table with columns for race numbers, names, and form guides for various horse races at Epsom.

Results

Table listing race results, including winners and runners-up for various events.

Royal fancy

THE Queen's Arabian Story is 5-1 favourite with Ladbrokes and Hill's and 11-2 with the sponsors for Sunday's Tote Special Handicap at Ascot after impressive wins at Epsom and York.

Advertisement for RACELINE featuring a horse and rider, with contact information for 0930 1684.

Soccer

Instant suspension for Poole

Peter White

GARY POOLE, the Birmingham City defender, was last night suspended from all football activity by the Football Association after allegations that he assaulted the Huddersfield referee Richard Poulain at Manchester City's Maine Road ground on Saturday.

Everton sights on Holdsworth

Ian Ross

DEAN HOLDSWORTH'S desire to leave Wimbledon for a club with a higher profile may well be granted this week, ironically just as he has patched up his differences with Joe Kinnear, his manager.

Smart about-turn by board puts Cambridge United up for sale

CAMBRIDGE UNITED, sixth in the Third Division, were put up for sale yesterday. Their chairman Reg Smart said: "My colleagues and I have given everything we can to the club. We now feel that a fresh injection of funds, and individuals on the board, will give the club the boost it needs to develop."

Advertisement for BT telephone table with text: 'On Tuesday 8th October, BT introduce a telephone table everyone will appreciate. BUT WILL IT HAVE LEGS?' and 'Mercury SmartCall' logo.



Unhappy returns... Wimbledon's former hero Beasant, hustled by Ekoku and Earle, is beaten by Gayle's shot

Uefa Cup, first round, second leg: Halmstads (0) v Newcastle (4) Helsingborgs (1) v Aston Villa (1)

Shearer flies in earnest

Michael Walker in Halmstad

TEN weeks after Alan Shearer was reported to be booked on a plane to Milan with Manchester United, he finally arrived on the Continent.

Tom Evans in Helsingborg

WHEN Helsingborgs drew 1-1 at Aston Villa their coach Reine Almqvist promised to play less defensively in the second leg.

Premiership: Wimbledon 3, Southampton 1

Beasant given night to forget by Ekoku

Trevor Haylett

WHEN the boys at Wimbledon are not finding the depths to find a ridiculous analogy with which to lampoon Gary Lineker they are rather good at their trade. Last night they demolished a pitiful Southampton side to record their fifth successive win and confirm their ride to sixth in the Premiership.

Dons riding for a fall, warns Barry's coach

BARRY TOWN'S player-coach Gary Barnett is talking about knocking Aberdeen out of the Uefa Cup tonight, even though the Scottish Premier Division side will bring a 3-1 lead to Jemser Park.

Results

Table of sports results including Soccer (FA Cup, League), Cycling, American Football, Ice Hockey, Fixtures, Soccer, Baseball, Basketball, and Ice Hockey.

Vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page for 'Team talk' and 'Motor Racing' with contact number 0891 33 77.

Motor Racing

The moment truth dawned on Villeneuve

Alan Henry on why Sunday's race went wrong for Damon Hill

IF DAMON HILL fails to win the 1996 world championship, he may believe that lap 22 of the Portuguese Grand Prix was the moment his title hopes evaporated. But lap 16 provided a more significant event.

Hill had pole position for Sunday's race at Estoril and made a perfect start, drawing smoothly away from the pack. The Briton is at his best with a clear track ahead, and by his first routine refuelling stop at the end of lap 17 he was leading Jean Alesi's Benetton by 8.8sec and his team-mate Jacques Villeneuve, his only rival for the title, by 9.7sec.

Yet the next few laps would underline the reservations the Williams team have privately harboured about his completeness as a grand prix driver. Carving through heavy traffic yet again proved difficult for Hill, and slowly but surely his advantage ebbed.

At the end of lap 20 everything seemed set for a second. Hill was running second, making up ground after his stop, he was still behind Alesi but nearly 20sec ahead of Villeneuve, then in fourth place behind Mika Hakkinen's McLaren. Hill had just lapped in 1min 24.94sec, Villeneuve in 1min 25.90sec.

On lap 21 the stopwatch showed Hill only 14.8sec ahead of Villeneuve as he came up to lap Ricardo Rosset's Footwork, which was battling for 16th place with Ukyo Katayama's Tyrrell. These two were paying scant attention to their rear-view mirrors and Hill simply could not pass them.

Between laps 21 and 23 his lead over Villeneuve, the more comfortable in traffic, was slashed from 14.8 to 7.1sec. Hill lost 5.8sec on lap 22 alone as he struggled to get past the slower cars. On lap 23 he lapped Rosset but was still losing two seconds a lap to Villeneuve as he struggled to overtake Katayama, which took him until the end of lap 24.

With a clear track ahead of him again Hill managed to stabilise his advantage, even opening it out to 9.8sec by the end of lap 29. But by the time the two Williams drivers emerged from their second refuelling stops, on laps 30 and 31 respectively, Villeneuve had scented a possible victory. On lap 37 he was 2.5sec behind Hill and on lap 39 he was only 0.8sec adrift.

The situation now developed into a deadlock. Villeneuve felt he could have lapped faster on a clear track.

CRICKET: THE VERDICT ON 1996



Gooch... bristling with years, runs and a £10,000 cheque

The end of English cricket as we know it

Today the TCCB will vote to make way for a new governing board. Mike Selvey looks back on a season of England consolidation

THIS season was the end of an era for English cricket. By the time the balls are back on next April the game will have a new management structure in place from top to tail. A process that begins at Lord's today when the Test and County Cricket Board members vote themselves out of existence.

They will do so to adopt the Morgan working party's proposals and form an all-embracing England and Wales Cricket Board, the ECB, which will mean change from the grassroots to international level.

place on the bedrock that has been provided by a competitive and at times ebullient batting side. All the current top six in the England order have scored Test centuries in the 12 months.

There were also a trio of hat-tricks for Dean Headley, successive double centuries for Vince Wells and one on his first-class debut for Northamptonshire's 16-year-old David Sales, unique in championship history. Jason Gallian of Lancashire produced the season's highest score, a monumental 312 against Derbyshire, and Cardigan Connor's nine for 98 for Hampshire against Glamorgan was the best bowling performance in the country.

Among those who have played their last county cricket are Dermot Reeve, who brought innovation, inspiration and nuisance value to Warwickshire; Allan Lamb, who would have played but was not published; instead, the Kent pair of Mark Benson and Alan Ilegiesin; Glamorgan's worthy seamer Steve Barwick; and John Carr, who leaves Middlesex to become Leicestershire's cricket manager after the incumbent Tim Lamb takes up the post of chief executive in November. The outgoing chief executive Alan Smith — most famous quote: "No comment, but don't quote me" — is retiring to sit on the fence.



Gooch... resurgent form to top the domestic rankings

First-class averages

BATTING

Table with columns: Player, M, I, NO, Runs, HS, Ave, 100, 50. Lists batting averages for various players like S Gangauly, G P Butcher, S Gangauly, etc.

BOWLING

Table with columns: Player, O, M, R, W, Ave, 5w10w, Best. Lists bowling averages for various players like Shaheed Nazir, S Muehat, C A Ambrose, etc.

Motor Sport

McRae to lose his co-driver

THE 1996 world rally champion Colin McRae is to lose his co-driver of nine years, Derek Ringer announcing yesterday that he wanted to "start a new chapter" in his life next year.

Cycling

Minali shines again for Italy

NICOLA MINALI sprinted to his fourth stage victory in the Tour of Spain on the flat 138-mile haul from Logroño to Sabiñanigo yesterday. It was a record 10th success by an Italian rider in this year's race.

Team talk

Table with columns: Team, Rank, Opponent, Score. Lists football team results for Arsenal, Aston Villa, Blackburn, etc.

Swedes reach Villa

Swedish players have reached Villa...

Sweden reach Villa

Sweden reach Villa...

Sweden reach Villa

Sweden reach Villa...

Sweden reach Villa

Sweden reach Villa...

Sweden reach Villa

Sweden reach Villa...

Sweden reach Villa

Sweden reach Villa...

Sweden reach Villa

Sweden reach Villa...

Sweden reach Villa

Sweden reach Villa...

Sweden reach Villa

Sweden reach Villa...

Sweden reach Villa

Sweden reach Villa...

Beasant gives night to forge by Ekoku

Swedes reach Villa

Sweden reach Villa

Sweden reach Villa

Wales unveil their high-speed lock, page 13  
Tell-tale lesson for Damon Hill, page 15

Instant suspension over injured referee, page 14  
First-class averages in full, page 15

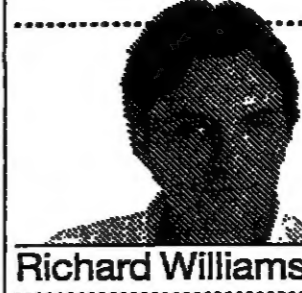
# SportsGuardian

## WENGER SETS NEW ARSENAL BENCHMARK



First impressions... Arsenal's new manager Arsène Wenger with his No. 2 Pat Rice, right, introduced himself to the players at training yesterday and then endeared himself to the fans with a jibe at the expense of their rivals Spurs, who lost to Leicester City on Sunday. "I tried to watch their match on television but I fell asleep," he said PHOTOGRAPH: TOM JENKINS

## Woman aids Walker's new lease of life



Richard Williams

THE NEWS that Murray Walker has been saved for the nation duly arrived yesterday. The world's most excitable 72-year-old will lead ITV's new grand prix team for the next two seasons, which means that he will probably retire at the same time as Damon Hill, who is exactly half Walker's age. Hill paid an affectionate tribute to Walker last weekend at a party held in the Estoril paddock to mark the BBC's enforced withdrawal from coverage of Formula One, after the Japanese Grand Prix in three weeks' time. But no one present was in any doubt that those frenzied tones would be back next year.

he cannot secure a drive for next season, is expected to slip into the seat alongside Walker, replacing Jonathan Palmer as the resident expert. The favourite for the thankless task of asking a sweat-soaked driver exactly how he has just managed to throw away a certain 15th place is the knowledgeable James Allan, of the American cable and satellite company ESPN. But the really significant personnel change, and the most obvious symbol of the desire to "feminise" the coverage, will be the addition of a woman reporter. This is the tricky one. If, as last week's rumour had it, ITV opts for a former weather girl, it will invite suspicion. In fact the job is now said to have been offered to someone who knows the sport and does not fit the Penelope Pitstop stereotype. All this disguises the truth that ITV's five-year contract represents merely a bridging period between the old world and the new. If you wanted to see the real future of Formula One in the paddock last weekend, you needed to snog around a large, low, silvery-grey marquee made of soft, shiny, rubbery fabric. Discreetly erected between the lavatory block and the helicopter pad, sprouting satellite dishes and air-conditioning ducts, it looked like a cross between a Bond villain's secret HQ and the sort of thing Claes Oldenburg would come up with if somebody invited him to use the Mir space station as the model for one of his giant soft sculptures. The doors were guarded around the clock by a uniformed security guard; a reception area could be glimpsed through the smoked glass, with a vase of fresh flowers providing a counterpoint to the asexual decor.

Crisis point for Yorkshire's famous but dilapidated stadium. David Hopps reports on a sporting dilemma

## Headingley on a knife edge

THE future of Headingley as a major multi-sports venue and Test cricket ground will reach crisis point this week with the culmination of confidential talks designed to take Leeds rugby league club to Elland Road, the home of Leeds United. Caspian, the sports and media group which wrested control of Leeds United this summer, will learn on Thursday night whether its bid to acquire the rugby league club has been successful; an outcome that would undoubtedly hasten the end of a run-down stadium starved of investment. Headingley's owner — Leeds Cricket, Football and Athletic Company — has become convinced that the ground is no longer commercially viable, even with the presence of Yorkshire county cricket club, recently joined by Leeds rugby union club, as tenants. Both occupants have been left largely in the dark while the owner has made increasingly desperate attempts to attract a buyer. Suggestions that Caspian is the only potential bidder, after the failure of Conrad, the sports and leisure group, to follow up its own discussions with a firm offer, were described as "wide of the mark" yesterday by rugby league sources. Caspian still faces resolute opposition from a third, as yet unidentified, group which regards both rugby codes as vital in Headingley's regeneration. Leeds CF&AC's debts are in the region of £5 million and rising by £100,000 a month. Leeds's rugby league atten-

dances dropped by half as they ensured a disastrous introduction to summer rugby, finishing third-from-bottom in the Super League. The departure of rugby league from Headingley hardly be making more relaxed noises about Headingley's potential demise. Their dissatisfaction with the ground has been indicated by discussions with rival city councils in Leeds and Wakefield. Yorkshire estimate that at least £10 million is required to safeguard Headingley's future as a Test venue, and even if funds were available, planning permission has proved notoriously difficult to obtain in a residential area. Other problems, such as limited parking, are virtually insoluble. If the pro-Headingley group wins the takeover battle, even an offer to donate the cricket side of the operation to Yorkshire free of charge would not automatically be greeted with enthusiasm. The Headingley Test has few attractions for Yorkshire. It repeatedly brings bad publicity — Pakistani supporters on the Western Terrace were subjected this summer to rac-

ist attacks — and the profits, thought to be close to £½ million last summer, go to Headingley's owner. The combination of unruly behaviour and poor facilities has already threatened Headingley's survival as a Test ground in anything but the short term. Leeds rugby union club are more resolute. Less than a year ago their lease to play winter rugby at Headingley had been pronounced by Leeds CF&AC's director as a "momentous step for the north's greatest sports stadium". The truth is that Leeds CF&AC's directors are desperate to sell but own less than one-third of the shares, with retired directors holding a further third. The rest are largely in private hands. Agreement will not be straightforward.

### No longer viable... the owner has made increasingly desperate attempts to attract a buyer

would leave this time-worn ground, cramped by Victorian red-brick terraces, valuable only as a site for development. Leeds CF&AC would probably wind up and transfer the rugby union nor-

### Guscott back and Carling to boot

Robert Armstrong on the squad recall of England's most celebrated pair of centres  
ENGLAND's most successful captain Will Carling has been recalled after twice being overlooked by the selectors. Carling, who is 30, will join 44 others for tomorrow's training session at Bisham Abbey. His international midfield partner Jeremy Guscott is also added to the party but there is still no place for Dean Richards or Rory Underwood. Carling, who has 66 caps and captained England 59 times, said: "I have heard that I am not interested in playing for England again. I find that insulting. In fact, I will be looking forward to this training session as expectantly as when I was uncapped. "If I did not want to play again at Twickenham, I would have retired from Test rugby instead of just stepping down as captain." In fact Carling returns to the England squad having added another string to his bow — goal-kicking — and with a burning desire to move from centre to fly-half. He has kicked 45 points in four matches, helping Harlequins to the head of League One. Carling... expectant

chief executive, said: "We recognise the importance of international rugby but emphasise that it must be part of a properly organised season which the clubs and the players are working together to construct. "We are making every effort to enable some order to be put into the current season and we hope that this indication of our goodwill will encourage the RFU to come up with a team which has the authority and will to resolve our outstanding differences." Carling's successor as England's captain — he resigned last March — will be named after the manager Jack Rowell has talked to potential candidates. England's first international is scheduled for November 23, when they play Italy. A fixture against Australia on November 2 or 16 is still being discussed. Even though Carling and Guscott are back in the squad, they are unlikely to resume their close partnership in any of England's pre-Christmas internationals, which also include Argentina and the New Zealand Barbarians. Rowell is expected to try a younger midfielder alongside one of the older men. More rugby, page 13

INSIDE, all the technology and expertise that \$40 million can buy was being brought to bear on the techniques with which the Formula One Constructors' Association will exploit the digital pay-per-view future. A small number of subscribers in Germany can already receive an experimental service, enabling them to choose from which camera position — around the track or in-car — they want to see pictures. Murray Walker, who joined the BBC in 1949, still represents the present state of grand prix broadcasting, otherwise ITV would not be in such desperate need of his services. But by the time his new deal expires, he really will be history.

"We will always think of Lauren as our first child. In some ways, it is worse than losing a baby who has actually lived, because you don't have any happy memories." Health

G2 page 6

### Guardian Crossword No 20,766

Set by Orlando

**Across**

- 5 Also the solver's dentally endowed (6)
- 6 Powdered earth? (6)
- 9 Grecian head framed by artist — an attractive thing (6)
- 10 Human lot cast on coast of Northumberland (8)
- 11 Goddess given hard time (4)
- 12 Unpoetical form of theft (10)
- 13 Give evidence animal has head packed with intelligence (4,7)
- 18 Terribly frisky — won't snooze (5,5)
- 21 Live broadcast coverage (4)
- 22 Truth is no substitute for contentious parties (8)
- 23 Quietly humorous publicity for nymphs (6)
- 24 Point left regular team (6)

**Down**

- 1 The charge of the Best generation? (6)
- 2 Stop talking in confinement (4,2)
- 3 An English freeholder, open amounts (6)
- 4 Offended solicitor turning up first (3,3)
- 5 Time flies — in small amounts (6)
- 7 Carried round, although superfluous (2,4)
- 8 A lady, being refined, coarsens him (11)
- 14 Gaunt miscast in Arden and Bow (6)
- 15 Opera performer bringing up carts loaded with eggs (6)
- 16 Food for a goose that's empty (6)

17 Dughill in centre of study? (6)

19 Summer? But it's almost fall! (6)

20 Butcher's cut seat (6)

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